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'PRINCE & PEASANT'

WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

VOL. XIV. CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, JANUARY 5, 1895 WHOLE NO 656.

WEEKLYANA.

We commence our fourteenth volume with the Honours of New Year's Day with which indeed 1895 was ushered into this city. They will gladden many homes though in other train they will cause disappointment in some quarters. It was a considerate decision to Gazette the Honours on the 1st instead of, as last year, the 2nd January. It would have been prudent as well to supply the Gazette Extraordinary simultaneously to both the daily and the weekly press. The Press Commissionership had one redeeming feature. There was no distinction between the European and the Native Press or between the daily and the weekly. Now the different departments are free to select newspapers often to the disadvantage of the weeklies.

NEW YEAR'S DAY HONOURS.

STAR OF INDIA.

Knight Grand Commander.

His Highness Shahu Chhatrapati Maharaj, Raja of Kolhapur.

Knights Commanders.

The Honourable Mr. James Westland, C.S.I., Member of the Council of the Governor-General.

Frederick William Richards Fryer, Esq., C.S.I., Indian Civil Service, Commissioner, and Officiating Second Financial Commissioner, Punjab.

His Highness Maharao Kesri Singh Bahadur, of Sirohi.

Courtenay Peregrine Ilbert, Esq., C.S.I., C.I.E., Barrister-at-Law, Assistant Parliamentary Counsel to the Treasury.

Companion.

The Honourable Mr. Charles Cecil Stevens, Indian Civil Service, Member of the Board of Revenue, Bengal, and Additional Member of the Council of the Governor-General for making Laws and Regulations.

Major-General Alexander Robert Badcock, C.B., Indian Staff Corps, Commissary-General-in-Chief, India.

Donald Mackenzie Smeaton, Esq., Indian Civil Service, Financial Commissioner, Burma.

Stephen Jacob, Esq., Indian Civil Service, Comptroller and Auditor-General, and Officiating Secretary to the Government of India, Finance and Commerce Department.

Colonel William Francis Prideaux, Indian Staff Corps, Resident of the 2nd class and Resident at Jaipur

INDIAN EMPIRE.

Knights Commanders.

Raja Sudhal Deo, C.I.E., of Bamra.

Colonel Henry Ramsshaw Thuillier, C.B., Royal Engineers, Surveyor-General of India.

Nawab Sidi Ahmad Khan Sidi Ibrahim Khan of Jafirabad.

Rao Venkata Seetachalapati Ranga Rao, Zamindar of Bobbili.

Companions.

The Honourable Rao Bahadur Visram, Additional Member of the Council of the Governor-General for making Laws and Regulations.

Charles Stevenson Little, C.I.E., Inst. C.E., Chief Engineer and Superintendent of Bombay Public Works Department, Member of the Council of the Governor of Bombay for making Laws and Regulations.

Colonel Henry Sullivan Jarrett, Indian Staff Corps, late Secretary to the Board of Examiners, Calcutta.

Colonel Henry Bristow Sanderson, Indian Staff Corps, late Judge Advocate General in India.

Rao Bahadur Diwan Jujhar Singh Ju Deo, of Charkhari.

Rai Dinagnath Banerji Bahadur, Collector of Calcutta and Superintendent of Excise, Bengal.

Arthur Crommelin Hankin, Esq., Assistant in Central India to the Governor-General's Superintendent of Operations for the Suppression of Thagi and Dakaiti.

Adam Gillies Tytler, Esq., Sub-Deputy Opium Agent in Bihar.

Veterinary-Captain Joshua Arthur Nunn, D.S.O., F.R.C.V.S., Army Veterinary Department, Principal, Veterinary College, Lahore.

Khan Bahadur Hakk Nawaz Khan, Assistant to the Political Commissioner, Baluch-Afghan Boundary [illegible]

[illegible] Abdullah Khan [illegible] Vice-Chairman of the Municipal Committee, Peshawar, Punjab.

Pundit Madhu Sudan [illegible] Professor, Sanskrit College, Calcutta.

Shams ul-ulama

Moulvi Muhammad Hamid-ud-din, late 2nd Moulvi of the Calcutta Madrassa.

Khan Bahadur.

The Honourable Meherban Dorabji Padamji, First Class Sardar of the Deccan.

Sher Muhammad, Supervisor, Public Works Department, Irrigation Branch, Punjab.

Khan, Allahyar Khan of Hangu, in the Kohat district in the Punjab.

Sheikh Khuda Baksh, Extra Judicial Assistant Commissioner of Punjab.

Muhammad Hasan, Senior Hospital Assistant, Subordinate Medical Department, Bengal.

Maulvi Sayyid Nasiruddin Ahmed, Chairman of the Bihar Board in the Bengal Presidency.

Kasim Husain Khan, Fabstwar, Bareily, in the North Western Provinces.

Indar Jit, Executive Engineer in the Central Provinces.

Fatehjab Khan, Commandant of the Rampur Imperial Lancers.

Sardar Sobhat Khan, Gola, Zamindar in Kohat.

Rao Bahadur

Venkata Rangayya, retired Sub Judge in the Madras Presidency.

Vembakam Rangava Charlu, First Assistant in the Imperial Department, in the Madras Presidency.

Virabhadra Subbaraya Mudaliyar, First Class Inspector in the Railway Police of the South Indian Railway, Madras Presidency.

Appathurai Krishnaswami Aiyar, Manager of the Office of the Inspector-General of Police in the Madras Presidency.

[illegible] letters, it possible, as the safest and most [illegible] to the Department. No other receipt [illegible] to cause confusion.

Trichinopoly Venkataswami Nilamagam Pillai, Senior Hospital Assistant, Madras Sappers and Miners

Camalapuram Lutchmiah Nayadu, Senior Hospital Assistant, 2nd Madras Lancers

Rao Sahib Mohanlal Ranchordas Zaveri, lately Deputy Educational Inspector of Surat in the Bombay Presidency

Rao Sahib Bapu Rao Patwardhan, Senior Judge, Small Cause Court, Nagpur, in the Central Provinces

Rai Bahadur.

Withada Venkatareddi Nayudu, Sub-Engineer 1st Grade, Public Works Department in the Madras Presidency

Pandit Kishen Lal, Private Secretary to His Highness the Raja of Sirmur (Nahan)

Lala Ganga Ram, Executive Engineer in the Punjab.

Lala Radha Kishen, Assistant Surgeon in the Punjab.

Pandit Sham Nath, Executive Engineer, Public Works Department, Ajmere

Babu Satya Kinkur Sen, Government Pleader, Burdwan, in the Bengal Presidency

Babu Hari Krishna Mazumdar, Zamindar of Islampur, in the district of Murshidabad in the Bengal Presidency

Babu Jogendra Chandra Mitter, Inspector of the Calcutta Police.

Koilas Chunder Bose, late President of the Calcutta Medical Society.

Lala Nihal Chand, landowner of Saharanpur in the North-Western Provinces

Kalyan Singh, City Inspector of Police, Allahabad, in the North-Western Provinces

Thakur, Sitla Baksh Singh, Tahsildar, Allahabad, in the North-Western Provinces

Bakshi Parmanand, Hakim-ul-Ala, Kashmir

Babu Woma Churn Mukerji, Registrar of the Department of Finance and Commerce of the Government of India

Khan Sahib

Wali Sahib Dadamiya Kazi, Kazi of the town of Satara in the Bombay Presidency

Nur Baksh Khan, Sardarzai, Honorary Magistrate in the Dera Ghazi Khan district in the Punjab

Rao Sahib

Rumao Vyasrao Desai, Vice President of the Municipality of Dharwar in the Bombay Presidency

Ishwarlal Chhavaram, Honorary Magistrate and President of the Municipality of Ahmedabad in the Bombay Presidency

Lakshman Bhikaji Wakhankar, lately clerk to the District Court of Khandesh in the Bombay Presidency

Chandulal Mathuradas, late Superintendent of Post Offices, Cutch Division

Rai Sahib

Bishan, Kotwal of Bir in the Kangra district in the Punjab.

Pandit Ramchandra Dube, Tutor to His Highness the Maharaja of Bikanir in Rajputana

Lala Bhya Mull, Commissariat Contractor

Babu Shoshi Bhoosan Bose, late Inspector of Police in the Bengal Presidency

Babu Dooga Churn Chuckerbutty, Supervisor, Public Works Department, Bengal

Babu Mathura Mohun Mukerji, Accountant and Treasurer, Office of the Private Secretary to His Honour the Lieutenant Governor of the North-Western Provinces

Ayet thare Laung shwe Sitke ya Min

Maung Shwe I, Myook, of the Magwe district, in Burma.

Maung Kale, Extra Assistant Conservator of Forests in the Tharawaddy district, in Burma

Ahmudan gaung Tazuk ya Min

Maung Ba, Myook, in the Minbu district, in Burma.

Maung Cheik, Inspector of Police, in Burma.

The Distinctions of the Day have, besides, fallen on others in the course of honorary military appointments. The Chief Justice of the Allahabad High Court, Sir John Edge, as Commandant, Third Administrative Battalion, North-Western Provinces Volunteers, and three other Commandants, namely, of the Bengal-Nagpur Railway Volunteer Rifle Corps, the Cossipore Artillery Volunteers, the Assam Valley Mounted Rifles and the Sind Rifle Corps, have been made Honorary Aides-de-Camp to the Viceroy and Governor-General. The Volunteer Officers' Decoration has also been distributed among forty-six officers of the Indian Volunteer Forces.

* * *

THE New Year was welcomed into Calcutta with the customary Parade on the Maidan, in which the Volunteers had a share. There was a brilliant display and heavy firing. Lord Elgin was present. The bands played the whole of the National Anthem. Three cheers were given for the Queen-Empress. In the March Past, the volunteers generally figured well. At the conclusion of the Parade, the Bengal Cavalry and the Calcutta Light Horse went by the Viceroy at a gallop when a Light Horseman, his animal becoming excited, vanished with a bolt. During the day, many repaired to the Zoological Gardens to the Fancy Fair held there. The Fair since last year has been shorn of its two chief attractions. The omission was made up, in part, by the visit of the Viceroy. In the evening there was the State Dinner at Government-House. Covers were laid for about ninety persons. Those privileged to meet the Viceroy on the occasion but who could not from religious scruples join him at the festive board were received by Lord Elgin later on.

* * *

As a part of the military show of the morning of the 1st, there was a manœuvre on the 2nd, when a mock night attack on Fort William was arranged, in which also the volunteers were allowed to take a part. The Calcutta Light Horse, the 5th Bengal Cavalry, the 10th and 16th Bengal Infantry and the Sussex Regiment, under the command of Colonel Darling of the Sussex Regiment, having occupied Howrah advanced in three columns along the Strand, the Clive Street and round Government House, along the Council House Street, and attacked the Duke of York's bastion. The 6th Bengal Infantry, the 1st Battalion of the Calcutta Volunteers the E. I. Railway and the E. B. Railway Volunteers and the Presidency Volunteer Battalion, under command of Colonel Hailes of the 6th Bengal Infantry, defended the position. After an hour's fighting, the order sounded "cease fire," General Lance holding that the enemy had been completely routed.

* * *

THE State Ball at Government House came off on the 3rd. The attendance was large.

* * *

THE Christmas Sale of the Queen's fat stock, bred and fed upon the royal demesne, fetched good prices. A fine Hereford bullock was sold for 52*l.*, Hereford heifes from 18*l.* to 26*l.*, Shorthorn cattle 23*l.* to 46*l.*, Devon bullocks 25*l.* to 34*l.*, West Highland bullocks 26*l.* to 30*l.*, Hampshire Down wether sheep 4*l.* 4*s.* to 5*l.* 5*s.*, Hampshire Down lambs 3*l.* to 3*l.* 15*s.* each, Clun sheep 2*l.* 13*s.* to 3*l.* 5*s.*, Highland wether sheep 2*l.* 6*s.* to 2*l.* 12*s.*, Berkshire pigs and hogs 3*l.* 10*s.* to 7*l.* and fat hogs, small white breed, 6*l.* to 7*l.* 10*s.* The sale was held on Dec. 12 at the Prince Consort's Farm, Windsor Park, and realized, for the 45 Devon Hereford, Highland and Shorthorn bullocks, 400 prime Hampshire Down, Highland, Clun and half-bred sheep and 100 bacon hogs and porkers, 2,020*l.* or 6*d.*

* * *

AT a lecture, in the Examination Hall, Victoria Embankment, under the auspices of the British Institute of Public Health, Dr. G. Sims Woodhead, director of the research laboratories of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons, pointed out that the antitoxic treatment of diphtheria had nothing in common with either the vaccination of small-pox or the tuberculine treatment of tuberculosis. The results have been strikingly in favour of Berlin and Buda-Pesth had recommended the treatment in England with possible improvements in the method. Lord Playfair, in moving a vote of thanks to the lecturer, regretted that while America was actively disseminating the new remedy, England was left far behind.

* * *

THE late Mr. George Livermore had a rare and choice collection of Bibles. The other day, [illegible] from that collection, [illegible] British Museum, [illegible] only [illegible] outside [illegible] the British Museum, [illegible] Bible, [illegible] for [illegible]. A [illegible] last but of the first Bible [illegible] type fetched

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JAMES ANTHONY FROUDE [illegible] on October 20, 1894, having previously made a will dated the [illegible] December preceding. The probate of the will has been granted [illegible] the duty on the higher scale of the Finance Act, 1894, at [illegible], amounting to £3,395, 15 9. The personal estate was sworn at £22,943 3. The executors are his son Ashley Froude and [illegible] Georgina Margaret Froude. They, however, receive nothing under the will, all the estate and effects which the deceased had power to dispose of beneficially by will, going to his daughter Mrs. Caird, Florence. The will directs "my executors shall destroy all private letters, literary papers, and unpublished manuscripts belonging to me, and I desire them also to destroy all such letters, papers, and memorials of, or relating to, the late Mrs. Jane Welsh Carlyle, as came to me for my absolute property under the will of Mr. Thomas Carlyle, and which I may not have published in my life time, together with any unpublished manuscripts relating to Thomas Carlyle or Mrs. Jane Welsh Carlyle."

ON Thursday, the 27th December, 1894, at Kirkee, the sporting Adjutant of the 4th Bombay Rifles, walked a mile, then ran the same distance and again rode over the same space on the Royal Artillery Parade Ground, all in 17 minutes and 45 seconds. The walk occupied him nine minutes, the run six minutes and fifteen seconds and the ride two minutes and twenty seconds. The ground was heavy and there was a large [illegible] to witness the feat.

LAST week Gunners Close and [illegible]age, of the 11th Western Division, Royal Artillery, were rescued from drowning in the Bombay harbour by the plucky tindale Adam Haji of Shepherd's steam launch *Pinda*.

THE Marine Court of Enquiry at Auckland on the loss of the steamer Wairarapa on Great Barrier Island in October last, when 134 lives were lost, pronounced its judgment on December 11. It is a wholesale condemnation of captain and crew. The Court finds the drowned Captain alone responsible for the loss. At the same time, it is of opinion that the Chief Officer showed neglect after the wreck and the ship's company did not do all that is expected of British seamen.

NOTES & LEADERETTES,
OUR OWN NEWS,
&
THE WEEK'S TELEGRAMS IN BRIEF, WITH OCCASIONAL COMMENTS.

THE Czar Nicholas II. has not yet been crowned, although he had the good wishes of all his subjects at his wedding. Nevertheless, he is the Emperor of all the Russias, and the costly ceremony of coronation will come by and bye. He seems to have cleared all the Nihilist fears which pursued his father Alexander III to his grave. He is for religious toleration at least as regards Roman Catholics in the army and civil service. He meditates an extensive [illegible] amongst his subjects. The peaceful announcements have [illegible] hope. Fortifications have been made from various places to [illegible] new harbours. The Russian Government has decided [illegible] concerning the boundary question regarding the Pamirs, conceding to Great Britain the two practicable ways across them, the Chitral and the Gilgit roads. The *Novoe Vremya* says that Russia is willing to give Great Britain satisfactory guarantees for the integrity of India provided Great Britain, on her part, helps Russia to acquire a shipport for a fortified station at the entrance of the Sea of Marmora with a point for a marine advance post on the opposite side of the Asiatic shore and Lemnos or Mitylene in the Grecian Archipelago. A Russian expedition headed by Captain Leontieff has started for Abyssinia with presents to the Negus and the petty chiefs. General Gourko has been replaced by Count Shouvaloff as Governor of Warsaw. The Imperial rescript making the appointment affirms the Czar's love of peace.

IN the French Chamber, M. Habert complained that there were too many journalists in Paris who used their power only to blackmail. He also accused the Government of tolerating a class of articles and advertisements, drawing dupes into the clutches of usurers and swindlers. Following upon this news by the mail, comes the telegraphic intelligence that the Governor-General of India-China, M. de Lanessan, has been recalled. He is accused of having communicated official secrets to M. Cornet, editor of the *Patrie*, and sent copies of confidential state papers regarding railways and other public works to M. de Freycinet and other Deputies.

AT his eighty-fifth birthday on Dec. 29, Mr. Gladstone received a deputation, among others, from the American company of Emperial who wanted to mark the occasion by the presentation of [illegible] the Hawarden Church. In replying, he alluded to the reported outrages by Turkish soldiers in Armenia, and said that Englishmen there under existing circumstances should be [illegible] time had come to raise again the [illegible] against atrocities so disgraceful to Mahomedan civilisation. The new [illegible] already demanded of the Porte reforms in Armenia. It is proposed to [illegible] Van, Bitlis and Mush into one Vilayet, with a German [illegible] for five years only. The Sultan will nominate him, but he must be [illegible] except in the first selection, a Christian.

LORD Monkwell succeeds Lord Sandhurst as Governor-elect of Bombay, as Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for War.

LORD Randolph Churchill continues in a precarious condition.

THE Emperor William is to be decorated with the Japanese Chrysanthemum. The Mikado is flushed with the victory of his troops, yet not forgetful that it is due to German instruction of the Japanese in military science. China must cause [illegible] for her long lethargic supremacy.

NO bloody news from the seat of war in the Far East. It is rather peaceful. Mr. Foster has started for Tokio on his mission of peace between China and Japan. The Chinese envoys will not proceed another week to Japan to meet him at Kobe. The Japanese successes in the south of Mukden appear to have come to a [illegible]. The Chinese troops in Manchuria under General Sung are [illegible] fighting tactics and regaining confidence in themselves. Newchang seems still to be in the hands of the Chinese. The Supreme command of the Chinese forces has been conferred on Prince Lukmyn, the Viceroy of Nankin. According to Japanese accounts in the battle of the 19th October, when the Japanese captured Hutchang, the fighting was severe, the Chinese loss was 300 while that of the Japanese was 420 killed and [illegible].

WISHING to please both Lancashire and India, the Secretary of State for India has the good wishes of neither. The excise duty on cotton has been denounced from all quarters in India. The cotton spinners of England have thereby expressed themselves against the cotton duty and have announced a conference to be held at Manchester next week to consider the question and we are sure, to force Mr. Fowler to [illegible] has once more to [illegible] the imposition of [illegible] duty, or add [illegible] on Lancashire cotton goods. On the reassembling of Parliament next week we may expect a lively debate.

THE Government of India has [illegible] the [illegible] Ayishnaraja Wadiar Bahadur, the eldest son of the late [illegible] Chamarajendra Wadiar Bahadur, [illegible] of Mysore [illegible] of a [illegible] to the throne, the minority has now been [illegible]. Pending that [illegible], the administration will be carried on [illegible] by Dewan [illegible] Sheshadriyer, and two [illegible] and gunners [illegible] stationed.

MR. W. Bremner, the late Principal of [illegible] College [illegible] retirement [illegible] years [illegible], is still [illegible] by his pupils who have themselves attained [illegible] stations in life. Mr. Bremner was known as a mathematician. He is now about 75 years of age and is still engaged in his favourite pursuits. He has already published a paper entitled "Hindu Astronomy not derived from Greece," as an appendix to a paper on Hindu Astronomy read before the Royal Society in 1862. He has got ready or is sufficiently advanced in a paper to show that the Greeks borrowed from the Hindus. At any

gate, he contests the statement at the Oriental Conference that the Hindu Trigonometry was taken wholly from the Greek (from Ptolemy) that the "Surjya Sidhanta" was not an ancient work, that some of the good things in the "Surjya Sidhanta" in Eclipses, proved that they had been borrowed. To pay the expenses of publication, it was suggested to raise the required amount by subscriptions. The pupils of the Principal took up the idea. But Raja Rajendra Narayan Roy of Bhawal has come forward with his accustomed liberality to bear all the expenses estimated at Rs. 2,000 In making the offer the Raja's Chief Manager, Babu Kaliprasanna Ghosh, a Bengali author of repute, whose Thoughts in Solitude we noticed in our last, writes to Babu Dinanath Sen, Offg. Inspector of Schools, Eastern Circle, Dacca, and Secretary of the Committee to raise the sum, says :—

"This contribution of the Raja will be in pursuance of the plan that he has been following for the last 20 years, of assisting the publication of meritorious books at the recommendation of the Sahitya Somalochani Institution at Joydebpur, through which he has thus spent a very large sum of money up to date"

The Raja is indeed fortunate in his able and accomplished Chief Manager.

MR. B. H. Hodgson, of Nepal celebrity, died in May last. By a will executed 18 years back, he had left £200 to his literary executor whom he named. Ten years after he revoked that will and by a new one bequeathed all his wealth to his widow who is about 50 years his junior. He left no children.

MR. Labouchere's faith in ministers of the Christian religion is shaken. After a long and costly experience, he writes —

"Often have I vowed that never again would I make a statement in *Truth* upon the authority of a clergyman. Once upon a time I published certain allegations about a village pump They were communicated by a clergyman. The village pump cost me £100 in damages and I forget how many hundred pounds in costs. Two or three years back I made some remarks about the relations of a Yorkshire squire to the church. My information that time came exclusively from clerical sources. It cost me £150 in damages and over £1,000 in costs. On four occasions in my editorial experience have I come off second best in libel action, and for two of those the clergy have been the cause of my downfall. Now comes the above instance (regarding Mrs. Walter) of the accuracy and trustworthiness of information from clerical sources. Henceforth, if the whole Bench of Bishops send a joint communication, countersigned by two Archbishops, I decline to look at it until the statements are verified by independent evidence."

The editor of *Truth* ought to have known better. We do not mean to say that the clergy are given to untruth There are people, whether of the clergy or the laity, who rush to untruth believing it to be truth. They jump to conclusions without careful examination. There are again persons who cannot face cross-examination, and make their escape by denying their own statements. They are more dangerous than the simply careless.

We take from the *Athenæum* the following brief notice of a very good new publication on general linguistics. -

"It was a happy and judicious choice on the part of Messrs Kegan Paul & Co, the publishers of the 'International Scientific Series,' when they entrusted the subject of *Race and Language* to Prof A Lefèvre, of the Anthropological School, Paris, who has produced a manual creditable alike for the independence of research of which it is the outcome, and for the lucidity of exposition which brings that ... home to the cultured reader The 424 pages of which this book consists contain a mass of well-arranged and well digested information which the reader may not easily find within such a small compass in any other work. The author is not, it is pleasant to note, a believer in the decadence of language, he rather sees 'in the thousand phonetic substitutions and modifications adaptations of speech to the temperament of the various peoples and to the growing complexity of intellectual needs.' After an introductory essay on the evolution of language, the bulk of the volume deal with the geographical distribution of languages and races Here the author keeps [illegible] of agglutinative languages, in [illegible] and unscientific Turanian fad which should have been expunged years ago from every authoritative book on language In his chapter on the Malayo-Polynesian languages he leans far too much on the late Mr. Crawford's statistics, which are open to considerable revision In spite of his admiration for synthetic languages, he avows his unqualified preference for the analytic tongues His comparison between English and French as representatives of the latter will be read with deep interest on both sides of the Channel. As the book is written in English and is intended in the first place for English readers, French spellings of ethnic words should have been avoided Why write Chamanist, Tchouvache, Chanfara, Tchouktche Aleoutes, Yakoutes? We have also noted a few misprints, such as 'Valerius and Maximus' (p. 174), and 'Echrader' for Schrader (p. 202). But these blemishes do not detract from the general excellence of the work.

It is not in the sense in which last century all languages were traced to Hebrew that the Rev D Macdonald, in his etymological dictionary of the Efate of the New Hebrides, endeavours to prove *Asiatic Origin of the Oceanic Languages* (Luzac & Co). For by Asiatic he means Semitic, and he distinctly says that 'Arabia, which borders on Oceania, has always been, and is to this day, the principal home of this, the most important family of Asiatic languages.' In his 'Oceania: Linguistic and Anthropological,' he made a similar attempt five years ago, and now returns to the charge, with no more success, we fear, than the great Bopp, who broke a lance to prove the kinship of the Malayo-Polynesian languages with those of the Indo-Germanic family, or, more recently, Dr. J. T. Thomson, of the Wellington Philosophical Society, who, in a series of articles, compared a number of words in these languages with corresponding ones in non-Aryan languages of Hindustan and border countries. There is, indeed, a certain similarity in the mental organization of the Semitic and Malayan races which is also traceible in certain peculiarities of their respective languages To these coincidences attention was first drawn, upwards of seventy years ago, by W Robinson, in the introduction to his excellent work on the principles of Malayan orthography; and they also form the subject of one of the best chapters in G. von der Gabelentz's latest work 'Die Sprachwissenschaft' But when we come to examine the details of lexical comparisons in Mr. Macdonald's book we fail to detect any palpable kinship, even of a distant degree. We must give him credit for the assiduity with which he has tried to solve his problem. As for the result, we can but arrive at the Scotch verdict 'not proven.'"

Here is a hit on the great Max Müller for still harping, as he has done these forty years, on his theory about the Turanian languages in which class he comprises all those that are neither Semitic nor Indo-European He thus lumps together all the tongues of the American, African and Australian aborigines, those of the greater part of Asia and part of Europe.

AT Toynbee Hall, Professor Victor Horsley gave an address when he illustrated by experiments the effects of a bullet from a modern rifle. While the projectile merely made a round clean hole in an iron plate, in clay it made a hole altogether disproportionate to the size of the bullet and of very irregular shape The old theory was that the air was driven in front of the bullet The present explanation is that the difference is due to the difference between a wet and a dry substance. He sent a bullet successively through an empty tin canister and a canister filled with fluid In the first canister a clean hole was made but in the second experiment the lid of the canister was blown off and the canister its elf upset. This, the professor explained, was owing to the fact that the velocity of the bullet, when passing through a wet substance, was distributed in equal pressure. Regarding the effect of the bullet on human brain, he explained that death was caused not, as erroneously supposed, by failure of the heart's action but by failure of the respiration The heart went on beating but the respiration stopped. The heart was stimulated and not depressed when a bullet entered the brain. A bullet passing through the bone of the skull simply made a round hole, and on passing out at the other side it made a perceptibly larger hole, producing at the same time an explosive effect and damaging the base of the brain. The brain was not necessary to life, but we could not live without respiration and circulation.

THE last novelty in maps, says a contemporary, is one of Africa by Dr. Felkin, in which the names of countries and provinces are superseded by those of the diseases peculiar to them. Many new diseases, to which Negroes are particularly liable, have thus been brought to the notice of the world. Amongst these, a contemporary has been very much exercised by the sleeping-sickness, about which, it seems, he had not heard before The following extract, therefore, from a very interesting lecture on Sleep by Lieutenant-Colonel Brigade-Surgeon Benjamin Evers, M.D., published in the *National Magazine* for October 1893, may not be without interest.

"Laymen may not, perhaps, be aware that there is a condition quite the reverse of that of Insomnia. It is termed *Lethargy*. Such profound sleep occurs that it may last for weeks together and then end in convulsions and death. It is essentially a disease of the nerve centres and as it has been noticed more frequently on the West Coast of Africa than elsewhere, it is called 'African Lethargy' or the 'sleeping-sickness.' It is confined exclusively to the Negro population and occurs more frequently in males than females. The tendency to sleep increases gradually. At first the person falls asleep, perhaps,

DEAFNESS An essay describing a really genuine Cure for Deafness, Singing in Ears, &c., no matter how severe or long-standing, will be sent post free. --Artificial Ear-drums and similar appliances entirely superseded Address THOMAS KEMPE, VICTORIA CHAMBERS, 19, SOUTHAMPTON BUILDINGS, HOLBORN, LONDON.

over his meals or his work, but as days pass, the sleeping fits become prolonged and emaciation follows. It is an extremely fatal disease."

Growing humourous over this novel idea of map-making, our contemporary suggests that the market value of such maps is capable of being increased by placing in the mountains and rivers the medicines requisite to travellers in those parts. In this way, the Jalap river, the Black Draught mountain, the Rhubarb plains, may introduce a new era in popular education. Why not? The Medical Congress, which, it is believed, will revolutionise the healing art, and convert every village in Bengal at least into a sanitarium under powers which Sir Charles Elliott is ready to grant, may very well take in charge the preparation of such a map of India to begin with. But we forget. The practitioners of the Indo-Sanskrit system of medicine have been classed in official publications under *herbalists*, and the Congress has only followed in the footsteps of the Government by refusing to have anything to do with these men, or with those practising other system of medicine. It is these herbalists who could be expected to give the necessary information regarding the localities where medicinal herbs and roots are obtained. Our medical men cannot, if they respect their science, avail themselves of any information supplied by Indian Kavirajes. Such a map of India, therefore, must for the present have to be prepared by them without any extraneous aid. And as that may be a difficult task, a more practical plan would be a map of India showing the quantities of English chemicals sold within particular areas. All cities and towns in which quinine less than 1 maund is sold in a year may be ignored as being still steeped in barbarity. Or, better, still, the country may be divided into patches for showing the variations of average income from the practice of the only correct method of cure which the Congress represents. Such a map, besides being an index of local civilisation, will be of immense benefit to those young men who may wish to come out to India, after having graduated in the British universities, for independent practice. In it all such localities should be omitted, or marked with jet blacks within which an orthodox practitioner does not succeed in making at least ten thousand rupees a year. To all provincial Governments, intolerant of insanitation, it will afford much help in determining the amount of Drainage tax that should be levied within particular areas.

THE joint-stock Mohun Mela at the Nine Tanks of the Mullick Lodge, on the 30th and 31st December, had a fair start. The opening was patronized by all sections of the community. About eight thousand persons were present the first day and two thousand the second. The directors had provided, for only the gate money, ample amusements. There were the Female String Band, Voss's Band, Female Band, Jatra, Theatre, Magic, wrestling, and, to crown all, Illumination and Fireworks, which last two sent away the visitors perfectly satisfied. There were enough seats and to spare for all of them. Those who wanted privacy had, however, to pay separately for the accommodation. The Mela was more a Barawari entertainment than a Fair. There were no stalls in sufficient number to speak of. If there were no sales to benefit any charity, there were games of chance to try one's luck. Thus, gambling had its free scope, which was suppressed the second day. No other improprieties were permitted or openly indulged in, unless it be any that *bhang* was sold as a cooling draught.

AFTER a harassing trial and a costly defence, Raja Jogender Nath Roy, of Nator, finds himself in jail. Mr. Lokendra Nath Palit, the Officiating Sessions Judge of Rajshahi, has sentenced the Raja to six months' rigorous imprisonment and a fine of Rs. 25,000, and his amla Mathura Nath Pal to only six months' hard labour. The sessions enquiry lasted for about a month and the Judge took more than that time to consider his judgment. The two assessors—one the District Engineer, and the other a merchant, both Europeans, had pronounced the charge false. Mr. Palit took time till Dec. 11 to make up his mind. Then he fixed Dec 20 to deliver his judgment. It was not, however, ready till January 3, when he, disagreeing with the assessors, convicted the prisoners. There was an immediate appeal to the High Court the next day, when the Justices Beverley and Banerjee, on the application of Mr. W. C. Bonnerjea, admitted and ordered release of the prisoners on bail. Out of the fine, Rs 6,000 has been directed, by the sentencing Judge, to be paid to the prosecutor Baboo Gunga Gobind Sircar, the Assistant Surgeon of Nator. The Finance Minister cannot but be thankful to Mr. Palit for thus adding to the impoverished exchequer Rs. 19,000.

THE Honours List is a comprehensive one. It includes all classes and grades. Next to the Maharaja of Kohlapur, who heads it, the Finance Minister and his department figure prominently. The late Law Member who will be always remembered for the ill-fated Bill that bears his name and his strongest literary opponent on that occasion are both honoured. The Bombay Additional Member of the Viceroy's Council who has just completed his first term is admitted to the Most Eminent Order, while the Bengal Member, more useful and who did signal services, is left out and was not allowed another term which he would have preferred to any gaudy distinction. The services of the Baboo Collector of Calcutta and Superintendent of Excise, an ornament of his service, who has always maintained his place with ability and dignity, are fittingly though tardily recognized towards the close of his official career. We have a Mahamahopadhya and a Shams-ul-Ulema. The Khan Bahadurs, Rao Bahadurs and Rai Bahadurs and their diminutive Sahebs are plentiful. The Police have a large share in the distribution. Though thankful for what he has got, the detective Inspector of the Calcutta Police has deserved a more substantial reward. He has earned his laurels in the Calcutta Police, and may now very well be redrafted to the Bengal, say as an Assistant Superintendent with a wider scope of activity.

A man of culture and accomplishments, a thorough gentleman and of means to maintain the dignity, Mr. W. H Rattigan, the leader of the Punjab bar and Vice-Chancellor of the Punjab University, has well deserved the English knighthood conferred on him on the auspicious occasion.

REIS & RAYYET.

Saturday, January 5, 1895

THE YEAR.

THE old year, taking it as one with another, while of the usual order in local details, has added another link to the chain of the world's progress. To the moralist looking closely at minor incidents, there might be grounds for a pessimistic view. Indeed, the panorama of events is but of the usual kind. There has been the same crop of accidents by flood and field, of Anarchist Demonstrations and Labour Strikes, earthquakes and similar catastrophes in the natural world as of wars and rumours of war, insurrections and revolutions in the political world. But we take these as temporary aberrations—local divergences which do not affect the general Law of Human Progress. The old year might have had its full share of evils inseparable from life, but notwithstanding this, the course of things, on the whole, has made for progress. In spite of all disquieting incidents here and there, the old year appears to possess a character of Peace stamped upon its forehead.

There was a combined effort for peace among the European Powers, and the utterances and acts of mighty monarchs have emulated in a common desire to bury the hatchet and smoke the calumet of peace. Towards this consummation so devoutly to be wished, things have, indeed, been tending for some time past, but the past year seems to have culminated in the result in a way never seen before.

Not the least overt sign of this is to be seen in the great Northern Bear's embrace with the British Lion. So far as any reliance is to be placed upon the late demonstrations of cordiality between these two States, the fact is one of no small significance. They are tiring of the cruel, exhausting game of war, and Militarism would seem to have its days numbered. At any rate, having attained colossal proportions, it is to be brought back within its proper limits. If appearances are to be trusted, the nations are realizing the truth that Peace hath her victories no less renowned than war.

Nor less significant have been the negotiations which more than once have averted threatened hostilities between France and England. They were within an ace of coming to blows in the Congo country. The tension of feeling in Madagascar and Siam as over the Egyptian question was at times carried to the bursting point. But in all cases peaceful counsels have prevailed in the end, and by mutual tact and forbearance an open rupture has been averted.

The same pacific disposition has been declared on more than one occasion by Germany, and altogether the chances of peace seem to be better now than at any previous period. To all lovers of progress this state of things must be full of promise as portending the dawn of a happier era

The year's chronicle is not without some notable events. In English politics the most important is the resignation by Mr. Gladstone of the Premiership and the appointment of Lord Rosebery as his successor. Opinions must differ among politicians of different schools as to the young statesman who has come at the helm of affairs. The attitude of the House of Lords towards the measures sent up by the Lower Chamber like the Home Rule Bill, the Employers' Liability Bill and others, interposes no small difficulty in the way of a Minister getting through his programme of work. His popularity in consequence suffers with his supporters who complain when the promised reforms are continually put off. Lord Rosebery has suffered from this cause, but as yet this has neither made him lose heart nor has it soured his temper. His work so far has been slow, but he has kept his spirits and resisted the temptation of giving way to the cry of "Down with the House of Lords" His position on this question is a moderate one, which has gone some way to enhance reputation as a leader of no mean promise. His public utterances have conduced to the same effect, and although there might be keen dissatisfaction in some quarters with regard to some of his acts, as notably in his proposed interference in the war between China and Japan, the general tendency of opinion is not against the new Premier.

In France there was a dire catastrophe in the assassination by an Italian Anarchist of the head of the Republic. The incident called forth a universal burst of indignation the intensity of which was in a great measure due to the personal and public virtues of the august victim. The occurrence, however, has turned the attention of all the Powers to the necessity of organized measures for the suppression of those secret agencies of destruction, and President Carnot shall not have fallen in vain if his death is the means of stamping out a standing menace to humanity.

Another disappearance of a crowned head, of not less moment, if not so tragical, is the death of the Czar of Russia which event has evoked widespread sorrow. Czar Alexander III. had been a genuine friend of international peace and his absence at this juncture is a loss to the political world.

Coming nearer home, the event of events in our own continent is the war between China and Japan. The issue of the struggle has been one continual surprise to the world, the proud Empire of the Celestials having been worsted again and again in a manner no body had expected. China now lies humbled to the dust, and sues for the friendly intervention of the Christian Powers in protecting her from utter demolition.

In India, 1894 was the first year of a new Viceroy's noviciate, we mean new in his own person, for Lord Elgin has an old tie that binds him to this country by hereditary interest. He has received an ovation wherever he has gone, in which nothing was more gratifying to his feelings than the ample proofs he received of the hold his father has upon the affections of the Indian population. The Viceroy has borne himself meekly in his new office, and his public utterances have been uniformly marked by a cultured sobriety, a tolerance of opinion and a real interest in the people's wellbeing which have been highly prepossessing. At the very outset of his career Lord Elgin had to pass through no ordinary trial. In the question of the imposition of tariff duties on English cotton goods, his Government found itself in opposition to the views of the Secretary of State. On this eternal question Manchester has always been supreme, and Secretary of State after Secretary of State has been a pliant tool in the hands of the English cotton-lords. An invidious distinction was decreed by the Secretary of State with respect to these cotton goods, the iniquity of which was the most glaring. The Viceroy's position was trying in the extreme, while that of his Council was a *reductio ad absurdum*. The demeanour of the Viceroy, however, all through was submissive. His own view of the situation is that he had done his duty by opposing his Chief, but that when that Chief was obdurate, he had nothing left but to yield. Lord Elgin, however, has at last got justice. The duties have been re-imposed, not because of the people of India having spoken with one voice or of the Secretary of State having been convinced, but because of Manchester having at last given in of her own accord. This act of plain justice has, however, through the same all powerful influence of Manchester, been shorn of its grace by being coupled with an injustice to the

The Indian Association for the Cultivation of Science.

210, Bow Bazar Street, Calcutta

(Session 1894-95.)

Lecture by Babu Ram Chandra Datta, F C S, on Monday, the 7th January, at 4 15 P M *Subject* Chromium and Iron

Lecture by Mr B Chaudhuri, B A, B Sc, on Monday, the 7th Inst, at 5 30 P M *Subject* Biology General survey of the Animal Kingdom

Lecture by Babu Ram Chandra Datta, F C S, on Tuesday, the 8th Inst, at 4 15 P M *Subject* Nickel, Cobalt and Manganese

Lecture by Dr Nilratan Sirkar, M A, M D, on Wednesday the 9th Inst, at 5 30 P M *Subject* Chemical Physiology—Globuline, Peptone and Gelatine

Lecture by Babu Rajendra Nath Chatterjee, M A, on Wednesday, the 9th Inst, at 6 30 P M *Subject* Pneumatics

Lecture by Babu Syamadas Mukherjee, M A, on Thursday, the 10th Inst, at 4 P M *Subject* Metric properties of Straight lines

Lecture by Mr B Chaudhuri, B A, B Sc, on Thursday, the 10th Inst, at 4 P M *Subject* Histology—Blood

Lecture by Dr Mahendra Lal Sircar, on Friday, the 11th Inst, at 6 30 P M *Subject* Hydrometry

Lecture by Mr B Chaudhuri, B A, B Sc, on Saturday, the 12th Inst, at 5 P M *Subject* Practical Biology—Frog (continued)

Lecture by Mr B Chaudhuri, B A, B Sc, on Saturday, 12th Inst, at 5 P M *Subject* General Biology—General survey of Vegetable Kingdom

Admission Fee, Rs. 4 for Physics, and Rs 4 for Chemistry; Rs. 6 for both Physics and Chemistry; Rs. 4 for General Biology; Rs. 6 for complete course of Physiology and Biology The charge for a single lecture is 2 Annas.

MAHENDRA LAL SIRCAR, M D,

January 5, 1895 *Honorary Secretary.*

rising cotton industry in India which has been subjected to a countervailing excise duty.

The Currency difficulty was during the year fully to the fore as before. Keen pressure has continued to be felt in business circles by the downward tendency of silver which Lord Lansdowne's legislation has not been able to arrest. Nevertheless there was no disposition to lay the fault at his closing of the Mints to the free coinage of silver, the policy of which measure is generally upheld. The agitation that came to a head in Calcutta and other commercial centres on the currency question demanded, on the contrary, that that measure should be followed by an appeal for international bimetallism. There was an influential meeting in Calcutta which adopted a memorial to Parliament embodying these views. Apart from this, there was a consensus of opinion in all quarters against the financial proposals of the Home Government of giving relief to the Indian exchequer by imposing additional taxation on India for the benefit of the English money-lender. The European mercantile community of our city have also freely fraternised with the native community and protested with one voice against the selfish policy of the tariff which has at last been grudgingly redeemed.

The publiction of the decision of the Secretary of State on the question of the Simultaneous Civil Service Examination, the rejection of the prayer of the Bengal and Behar landholders about the Cadastral Survey, without fairly meeting their last memorial, the passing of the Bengal Municipal Act which is a considerable improvement on the old one, the threatened imposition of a Drainage Cess, the growing interest of the Government as well as the people in questions of Sanitation, the Tree-daubing Scare, and Government measures for the prevention of riots between religious sects, including proposed increased powers to a corrupt police, the serious illness of the Afghan Amir from which he has now happily recovered, the Waziristan Expedition, these are about the main heads of topics which have engaged the attention of the public. Indian questions have, as in the year previous, received an increasing share of attention in Parliament as well as from the English public at large. The year will be memorable for two important debates on the subject of British administration in India, one on the occasion of the presentation of the India Budget in the House of Commons, and the other on a motion for a Commission of Enquiry into the growing poverty of this country under British rule. Of not less importance have been the exposures by retired proconsuls like Lord Northbrook and Lord Lansdowne and officials of the position of Sir Auckland Colvin, now no longer under the trammels of office, of the way in which the India Office was too prone to subordinate the interests of this country to those of the British people. All honour to them for their advocacy of this helpless land, and to the British Parliament and public at large for the growing interest they are manifesting in the affairs of our country. Our only hope is from them, as recent experiences have more than ever shown the feebleness of our own Government before the arbitrary mandates from Whitehall and Downing Street.

It has been a peculiarly wonderful year in its abnormally heavy mortality. The losses have been unusually numerous in almost all walks of life, leaving gaps in our community some of which it will be difficult to fill.

We cannot think of the year that is gone without recollections of a terrible personal loss. The death in February of Dr. Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee is an irreparable loss to *Reis and Rayyet*, and, we think we may add, to Indian journalism in general. It is no small solace, however, in our sorrow that the worth and virtues of the brilliant publicist and no less brilliant man have been cordially acknowledged in almost all quarters. The Chief taken away, his work has fallen upon lieutenants to carry it on according to their lights and, of course, upon the lines that he set for their guidance. This we have done so far and, God willing, we mean to do as a sacred obligation, to the best of our power, inadequate as that power may be to the work before us Of our imperfections no one could be more sensible than ourselves. We have, however, a duty to perform to the dead, and how could we do it in a way that would be congenial to his spirit but by keeping alive the journal to which he devoted so much of himself. This we regard as the only possible repayment in our power for all that we owe to the dear departed. It is in a spirit of pious regard for the good doctor's memory that we have taken up his work, and we trust we can bespeak the consideration and indulgence of our readers in discharging the task.

THE SAGACITY OF CRITICS,
OR
THE RAGE FOR THE ESOTERIC.

CRITICS have generally been credited with finding meanings never dreamt of by authors. The host of ingenious scholars who have laboured on Shakespear, have discovered many beauties in the poet and many evidences of his insight into nature and his skill in weaving images. These, it is said, would have surprised the poet himself if he had been told of them while alive. The question of the comparative sagacity of critics and authors has generally been regarded as a speculative one, although, after all, it admits of a solution by direct evidence. Everybody knows what Socrates' experience was with the Grecian poets, tragic, dithyrambic, and the rest. The great philosopher asserted, while addressing his disciples, that there was scarcely any one amongst them who could not speak better than the poets he had questioned on the very subjects of their poetry. "It was not any wisdom by which they made their poems, but a certain natural gift and enthusiasm, like prophets and divines, who also utter many fine things, but know nothing of the things they speak." Something of the same kind seemed to be the experience of the wisest of men with the poets of his time. Oliver Goldsmith could not explain the word "slow" in the first line of his *Traveller* Tennyson has been said to have failed in explaining some lines of his *In Memoriam*, which, he said, had been written under the influence of inspiration If by inspiration be meant an effort of the mind, of which the man himself is not conscious in the manner in which he is conscious of his usual and ordinary mental operations, its influence on composition can hardly be denied. The most noted instance, perhaps, of such unconscious effort was furnished by Coleridge, who composed his exquisite fragment, entitled *Kubla Khan*, in a sleep, "if that," as he himself says, 'can be called composition in which all the images rose up before him as things, with a parallel production of the corresponding expressions, without any sensation or consciousness of effort" Sanskrit rhetoricians have taken it for proved that commentators, as a rule, are more learned than authors and are, accordingly, appreciative of beauties to which authors are in most instances blind An oft-quoted verse, of unknown parentage, illustrates the situation with singular felicity.

Kavitā-rasa-mādhuryyam Kavirvetti na tatkavih,
Bhavāni-bhrukuti-bhangi Bhavo vetti na Bhudharah.

The sweetness of the taste which attaches to poetry is relished by one that is a poet, but never by him from whom it flows. The graces of motion of Bhavāni's eye-brows are understood by (her lord) Bhava but not by (her progenitor) the Mountain. When a poet once comes to be recognised as great, there is no end of speculations in which critics indulge for explaining the excellencies of his genius. Some-

times, again, the utmost extravagance characterises those speculations. We need not speak of the hundreds of men who would interpret the whole of the "Mahábhárata" as a grand allegorical representation of the war of the human passion, supporting their theories by the most fanciful etymologies of such names as Kunti and Pándu and Dhritaráshtra and Bhishma and Yudhishthira, and the host of other characters occurring in that cyclopædia of ancient Indian chivalry. The first chapter of the Gita, in particular, yields in this way an esoteric sense in the hands of men whose sanity in other respects no one can question. Speaking of Bengal poets, there are critics who actually see esoteric meanings in Bhárat Chandra's "Vidyá-Sundara" even in those passages where the poet prostituted his genius by pandering to the vicious taste of the times in which he lived. India, perhaps, is the only country in the world where pursuit after the esoteric, in the department of literature, has begun to be carried to the verge of insanity. That undefined movement which goes by the name of Theosophy here has, it seems, imparted a fresh impetus to the inclination for the esoteric interpretation of the Hindu scriptures and even profane Indian literature. This feature of Theosophy is so well marked that, undefined as the movement is, it may very well be defined as a system of faith which accepts the ancient literature of India as embodying grand allegories which it is its special province to explain to a dull and forgetful world. Mr. J. F. Hewitt, the late Commissioner of Chota-Nagpore, though no Theosophist, has caught the contagion. His new book, entitled "The Ruling Races of prehistoric times in India, South-Western Asia and Southern Europe," is, from beginning to end, an endeavour to explain the ancient literature of almost every country as an allegorical representation of famous migrations and changes of religious convictions. In the majority of instances, his etymologies of Sanskrit names and words are incorrect. Indeed, it could not be otherwise, considering that Mr. Hewitt's acquaintance with Sanskrit has been made through translations. Our own Chandra Nath Bose, who is certainly a sensible critic in other respects, in his famous dissertation on Kalidasa's "Sakuntala," actually asserts that Kalidasa wrote his world-renowned drama for enforcing the doctrines of the Sánkhya system of philosophy. Dushmanta, the hero, is Purusha, and Sakuntala, the heroine, is Prakriti. It would be interesting to ascertain, under the guidance of this critic of solid learning, who those characters are of this drama that represent Mahattattwa, Ahankára, the five Tanmátrá's, the five gross elements, the ten organs of knowledge and action, Mind, and Understanding. Unfortunately, Babu Chandra Nath affords no light on these cardinal topics of the Sankhya philosophy. We have tried, in our dull way, to identify the characters with those four and twenty well-known topics. Unfortunately for us, we have succeeded in the case of only three and twenty. Unless, therefore, we add the critic himself, the full tale cannot be arrived at. As an instance of another omission, Babu Bose has not explained how the poet, in Sakuntala, has taught us the means of achieving the final deliverance from the three kinds of pain to which we are, by our very nature, subject. Whatever the critic's knowledge, however, of the Sankhya system of speculation, and whatever his ingenuity in detecting the hidden purposes of the poet, we have been surprised to see how egregiously he has erred in apprehending the meaning,—that is, the plain and not the esoteric sense,—of the beautiful verse in which Dushmanta gives expression to his sense of the inappropriateness of causing Sakuntala to undergo the austerities of an ascetic life. In that well-known verse Dushmanta likens Kanwa's endeavour to make Sakuntala undergo such austerities to the efforts of a person to cut down a hard and prickly *Simi* tree (the *Mimosa Suma* of Roxburgh) with the petal of a lotus for his instrument. The *patra* in the compound *Nilotpala-patra dhárayá* does not mean the leaf of the plant but the petal of the flower. The petal is more delicate than the leaf. Besides, in such compounds as *Padma patra nibhekshana*, the meaning is not one whose eyes resemble the *leaves* of the plant, but one whose eyes are like the *petals* of the flower. Verily, every schoolboy knows that Amara Singha gives "Satapatra" as one of the synonymes of the lotus. "Patra" in this connection does not mean leaves. The fact is evident that Babu Bose, when he wrote his dissertation, had not handled a lotus-leaf. His observations on the leaf are exactly those of a cockney. Gray, in the opening stanza of his *Elegy*, wrote like a cockney, for he described a classical evening and not the evening of England. English ploughmen return from their labours in the field at noon and not at sunset. Babu Chandra Nath's description of the lotus leaf has not the merit of even a cockney writing from books. Here is how Babu Bose unrolls a page of nature before the eyes of his readers:—

"All of us have seen the leaves of the lotus,—have seen large lotus leaves floating on the blue water. Water is the life of those leaves; they seem to have sprung up from some virtue residing in water,—as if the water itself, thickened by some means, has been changed into those leaves. Sakuntala, who was the very embodiment of all that is delicate, scratched some letters with her nails on one of those leaves. Those leaves are such that they are unable to bear scratches of the nails. They seem to melt away at the touch of the nails. Then, again, gently raise any of those large leaves, tearing it from the stalk. It will immediately droop down. What can be the strength of that leaf's edge, dear friend?"

The above, we think, is a fair translation of the passage. We have, however, never seen such an elaborate description as this of the lotus leaf anywhere else. If Babu Chandra Nath had actually done what he asks his readers to do,—that is, tear a lotus leaf from the stalk and raise it from the water,—he would have found that instead of drooping away it would have continued to present the same aspect as before. Babu Bose evidently does not know that in many parts of Bengal the lotus leaf does duty for the leaves of the plantain, and that it lasts, without drooping or drying, for days together. Formerly, people in Bengal used to wrap with lotus leaves those parts of beams and rafters, made of Sal wood, which required to be inserted within solid masonry. Lotus leaves offer a good protection against damp and white ants. The wrapping leaves, protected from sun and wind, have been known to last for decades together. So much for the soundness of Babu Bose's exquisite reflections on the lotus leaf. Another instance of such downright waste of ingenuity and writing power can hardly be given.

THE INDIAN MEDICAL CONGRESS.

PROGRESS OF SCIENTIFIC MEDICINE IN INDIA.

(From a Summary of the Address delivered by Mr. Hart, editor of the *British Medical Journal*.)

The Parasite Of Malarious Fever.

These fevers—agues and intermittent fever, malarious, remittent and typho-remittent may now be set down as due to a parasite germ conveyed through the drinking water. I have no intention of entering on a detailed description of this parasite or of discussing the many important question connected with it. All this you can find in the latest publications of the new Sydenham Society in their translation of Laveran's last work in their translation of Marchiafava and Bignami's conjoint work on the *Summer Autumn Fevers of Rome*, and in their translation of Mannaberg's elaborate and most excellent monograph on the *Malaria Parasite*. These books you must study exhaustively. They were this week repeated and confirmed to you by Dr. Crombie in his excellent address. My object in bringing this matter before you is to impress upon you its enormous importance; to impress on you the fact that the malaria parasite is no myth but a reality; to point out more plainly than is done in the books referred to and in other works on the subject the way to set about finding it; to make clear to you that it is easily found, and by very simple means, if the search is gone about in the simple right way; to remind you that you, of the profession in India, have a duty in this matter; and to appeal to you to do something for the scientific reputation of our country. I do not ask you enter on a dry uninteresting task. I feel sure that whoever has once seen the malaria parasite, will return spontaneously, and whenever he can to its study. The thing is so marvellous, so important, so fascinating in itself, that anyone who has tasted the pleasures of the investigation will be sure to take every opportunity of renewing them. Do not be deterred by assumed incompetence or imaginary difficulties. Many suppose that microscopical examinations and scientific work in general cannot be efficiently conducted by men, circumstanced, as I presume the majority of Indian medical officers are, having only limited apparatus, without command of a large library, without abundant leisure. Those who suppose this, debar themselves from much pleasure, much usefullness. It is a great mistake. The best work is nearly invariably down with the smallest amount of apparatus, often apparatus of the crudest description, away from libraries, and in the scanty leisure of active practice. The best apparatus is in a man's head and in his will. In scientific research, next to a clear perception of what you would seek, and persistency of effort, simplicity and directness of method are the surest guarntees of success. Great truths generally lie under our eyes, could we but look clearly, think clearly, truthfully, simply, and not smother ourselves in all sorts of preconceived ideas, in cant, in untruthfulness, in paraphernalia, and in the prevailing fashion. Until lately, malaria has been studied only in its effects: henceforth the study will embrace—and that in the first

instance---its cause. When the next text-book on tropical medicines comes to be written, the chapters on malarial disease will be written from the standpoint of the malaria parasite. The first chapter will be a piece of natural history---the life history of the parasite. When this has been fully set forth, then, and not till then, the writer will pass to the consideration of the action of the parasite on its human host, that is, to malarial disease. This is scientific medicine. Hitherto, as regards malaria, it has been, as with astronomy, before the laws of gravity were discovered. Laveran, by his discovery, has proved himself a medical Newton. The old touchstones of malaria---quinine and periodicity---were extremely unsatisfactory, and fallible as a basis for scientific study; the thing malaria itself---the germ---is infallible. Thanks to Laveran, we can now see the thing itself, and the subject has thus passed, at one bound from the region of empiricism to the region of science. When the Indian observer has satisfied himself of the existence of the malaria organism, when he has learnt to recognise its various phases and their relation to each other; when he has become so familiar with them that he can apply his knowledge with confidence to diagnosis; then he should endeavour, so for as lies in his power, to apply his knowledge to the re-investigation of the entire range of Indian fevers. Recently the *British Medical Journal* published a malarial chart, which in its present form, or in a form modified by further experience, it is hoped, will prove of service in such investigations. It enables observations on the plasmodium in the blood to be rapidly recorded and read, and this in comparison and in conjection with the progress of the fever as indicated by thermometer. Whether there is only one malaria parasite whose disease producing properties are modified by changes of temperature, moisture, soil, or whether there are several parasites closely resembling each other but still specifically distinct, we cannot as yet say. The settlement of this and of many another knotty points about malaria is bound to come soon. It is *your* duty to tackle these knotty points. European science, knowing your opportunities, expects this of you. I hope that when the successes of the future do come, many of them will be scored to British names. I hope those names will not, as hitherto in this matter, be conspicuous by there absence. England has done much for tropical medicine in the past; do not let her lose the place she has gained. Certainly an active investigation of Indian fevers from the standpoint of the new departure is imperatively demanded of the professon in India.

The Question as it Affects the Lower Animals.

Besides forwarding our knowledge of malaria, good will come of such an investigation in many other and unexpected ways. I have not the slightest doubt that, apart from the malaria question, the systematic examination of the blood in India will result in important discoveries in other departments of tropical pathology. Certainly many fevers now regarded as malarial will be relegated to another class or other classes. There will be many strange and probably useful additions to our knowledge of the fauna flora of the blood. Diagnosis will become more precise, and consequently treatment more successful, and in a hundred other ways the theory and practice of medicine in the tropics will be advanced. There is one direction, in which in India you could make important contributions to malarial pathology. The discovery by Danielewsky, Grassi, Feletti, and others of organisms closely resembling that of malaria in the blood of the lower animals, is not only interesting in itself, but is likely to prove of extreme value in elucidating the life-history of the malaria organism of man. Comparitive pathology should, in this instance, if vigorously followed up, prove a powerful aid to human pathology. A systematic examination of the blood of the Indian fauna should, therefore, go hand in hand with the systematic examination of the human blood. It is probable that it will be in this way, by the study of the malaria-like parasites in the blood of the lower animals, that the life history of the malaria parasite of man will be worked out. The investigation into Surra disease and the Surra micro-organism, at present so ably conducted by Lingard, cannot fail to re-act favourably on human pathology, particularly on this malaria question. As a general rule I am not an advocate for Government aid, but the mention of this Surra investigation leads me to think that if properly approached, a Government which so thoughtful about the diseases of its beasts of burden, might be found to be equally thoughtful about its human subjects and their diseases, and might be induced to aid, in some way, in their investigation. This question of malaria is a fascinating subject, and I would fain pursue it further did time permit. Before leaving it I would congratulate the professon in India on having so splendid an opportunity for original work of the most important and attractive description. I sincerely trust that for the honour of British medicine it will not be slow to avail itself of its opportunities.

The lecturer then proceeded to speak of the connection of the disease with water supply, and pointing out its intimate association with drinking water, referred to observations which had been made by excellent observers, such as Dr. Kinsey of Ceylon, Dr. Osler of Baltimore, and to communications made to the recent Congress at Rome, each of which afforded evidence that the malaria parasite was an organism breeding in water, an observation indeed confirmatory to the frequently observed fact that the supply, of pure drinking water was the best remedy for local prevalence of malarious diseases. This was well known to the natives of India, who would frequently move to a district where the water-supply was good, and sometimes thus secure much needed immunity from severe prevalences of malarious fever among a whole community. It was impossible to say off-hand how much, and what forms of ague were due to the drinking water, but basing upon the now-known fact, Mr. Hart predicted that before long, water would be proved to be a main factor in an extremely large proportion at least of malarious fevers. The lecturer then proceeded to discuss dysentery, liver abscess and amœba colic, Beri-Beri, ankylestomiasis. He did so very briefly, indicating in each case their important relations to microscopic investigations and to parasites of microscopic character, the study of which opened a large field for useful and original work in India. These studies, and the elements of new knowledge in respect to them are to be found fully described in the full text of Mr. Hart's address, which is separately published by Messrs. Thacker, Spink, and Co., as the whole address would occupy fully three or four times the time allotted for the delivery of it at this meeting. He proceeded to discuss chronic intestinal flux and intestinal fever, and continued as follows:---This matter of the prevalence of animal parasites in the intestinal canal as well as in the blood and tissues of the natives of India and other tropical countries, is immmently suggestive of the absence, as well as of the importance of sound hygienic conditions, particularly as regards water-supply, and directed to the exclusion from this, not only of animal parasites, but of parasites in general. This fact suggests the reflection that, if under the present hygienic conditions animal parasites are so extensively prevalent in India, these conditions are still more favourable for the spread of such.

Want of Research in India.

In reply to the question why India has contributed so little to the study and knowledge of its own prevalent diseases, Mr. Hart said that research was not encouraged. There was a feeling that a man with a leaning to science, with a new scientific fact to his head, was regarded by officialdom as a nuisance, as a sort of pestilent fellow with a new bug. The departments of the medical service were undermanned and overloaded with secretorial work. As a consequence, tropical medicine languished where it should flourish. When circumstances and public opinion forced Government to institute some scientific investigation, they did not find suitably trained men in the ranks of their own services; they had either to send home for them or to employ a foreigner. As a remedy for this state of affairs Mr. Hart added---

1---I would make promotion in the medical services in greater measure than at present a reward for medical merit.

2---I would give, at the public expense, to deserving and suitable medical men, an opportunity to return occasionally to Europe for a year or two to brush themselves up in medical matters, and to familiarise themselves with new methods.

3---I would have less clerical, and more medical work in the services.

4---I would have the examining and graduating bodies in Britain to give at least one question in their examination papers in medicine on a tropical disease.

5---I would have the large hospitals in Liverpool and in London, in which tropical diseases most abound, affiliated with the local hospital schools in some way, and thus utilise their valuable clinical material at present running to waste, for technical purposes, and for research.

Cholera.

It may seem strange, Mr. Hart continued, that I should have left to the last the consideration of that most important of the indigenous pathogenic products of India---namely cholera. But you will observe that it was necessary for my purpose that I should fix firmly in your minds the fact that man is surrounded by a host of minute enemies, which not only can live in his tissues and so produce in him disease, but can, more especially in hot climates, maintain an independent existence outside, in soil or water, as may be the case. This being once demonstrated, as in the case of the coarser intestinal parasites such as the ankylostomata, the blood parasites, such as the filaria, the malarial parasites, the guinea worm, and other disease producing organisms, and it being once recognised, on the one hand, that the maladies produced by them occur with enormous frequency in India, and on the other hand, that they in all cases gain access to the body by being swallowed along with what is drunk or eaten, our minds are prepared to admit that whatever may be the case in other countries, in India at least the habit of drinking water sufficiently impure to carry organisms into the intestines is common enough to cause coarsely parasitic maladies to rank among the most frequent diseases of the country. Who then shall separate cholera from these other water-borne diseases and deny that it also carried into the mouth by water? In Europe we have the *proof* that by being so introduced it can produce great outbreaks of the disease. In India we have, in the vast extent of its parasitic maladies, proof that the habits of the people are such that if the cholera germ were present in the water, it

certainly would not lack opportunities of being swallowed. And when, along with such conditions and opportunities we find cholera almost constantly present, we see no possible excuse for hesitation for accepting the dogma which I have so long taught, that in India, as in Europe, cholera is a filth disease, carried by dirty people to dirty places, that its common mode of access to the interiors of these people is by the water which they drink, and that it may properly be described as a water-borne disease. I have been much misunderstood in regard to this phrase "water-borne cholera." It has been taken as meaning that rivers and streams are the means by which cholera is distributed, and the fact has even been brought forward against the "water theory," "that cholera in India, certainly in the Bengal Presidency, always advances up stream." What, then, do I mean when I say that cholera is a water-borne disease! I mean that it is caused by a poison which is swallowed and which, in ninety nine cases out of a hundred, is carried to the mouth in water. Within the body this poison grows, multiplies, and in its growth causes the disease in the course of which it is discharged; then it is ready to take up the other phase of its life, to grow in damp earth, to breed in dirty water, to be washed by rain into water courses, to soak through porous soil into wells; in some very rare, unproved cases, perhaps, where cholera is very rife, and filthy habits are over-abundant, to be blown by gusts of wind, or carried by the hand into food, and thus by one means or another but in an infinitely larger proportion of cases by means of water, to get round to another person's mouth, to be swallowed, and again set up the whole cycle of events. It is not a mere matter of rivers and watersheds but of cooking utensils, drinking cups, water bottles, and especially of cisterns and reservoirs. The disease is water-borne, because it is carried by water to the mouth; but that is only the last stage of a journey, circuitous and long, though often not difficult to trace, by which it has travelled from its past to its present host. Inside the body, the poison passes, often killing the patient in its passage; outside, its course is halting, erratic, various in manner and intensity, depending largely on the physical surroundings in which it finds itself (the soil, the water, the temperature), by which often times it is destroyed, or amid which it dies out. If it lives through its adventures and lands again in the body of a man susceptible to its influence, then again it has its chance, and sets up afresh the old disease. If we fully grasp this conception of the malady, facts fall into their places. The seasonal curve becomes a curve depending on the proper heat and moisture requisite for the development of the most active outside life of the contagion, on thirst causing large drink, on scanty and therefore foul water, on rains washing accumulated filth into the tanks and water-courses, on a mass of physical causes, and not on the spread of an "epidemic influence." The varied susceptibility of individuals points to varied powers of digesting and thus destroying the contagion, and the greater liability of some nations to be attacked, depends on their greater willingness to drink contaminated water. Truly cholera is a filth disease. In the region of the lower Ganges, "the home of cholera," the air, the water, and the soil are never cold, and the ground is often damp, and when it is dry the tanks are foul, so that always there is a fit breeding place for the contagion, and the habits of the people in every way facilitate its entry into their systems. There is nothing strange, even, in cholera becoming endemic in this area: there is a climatic condition, such that the germ can keep alive for considerable periods outside the body, and there is an endemic habit of drinking it freely; but if this habit is broken, people can and do live in the very midst of this area free from cholera, and whole districts and communities have thus been endowed with an immunity, dependent merely on the breaking of one link in the chain of events by which cholera is produced, namely, the habit of drinking contaminated water. Among the manifold influences which conspire together to cause an epidemic prevalence of cholera is this important fact, that to pass from man to man it must be swallowed, and because this is an essential link in the chain, I advise the provision of pure water as the one practicable measure by which this transmission can be prevented. India's real want is pure water. The difficulty of meeting it is largely one of expense, but that it is no small one may be judged by the facts put forward in a paper recently brought before the Indian Section of the Society of Arts by Sir Auckland Colvin, on Municipal and Village Water Supply in the North West Provinces and Oudh. In that portion of India alone there are 41,600,000 persons scattered over 106,000 villages and 242,194 inhabited sites. The hamlets lie for the most part on the flat land, or a little raised above it, scorched alternately by sun and drenched by continuous rain, in entire disregarded of all sanitary care; there occupants drinking from the pond in which they bathe, and in which their cattlewallow, surrounded by the refuse of their daily lives, far from the eye of the English officer, and if coerced only by the ever-itching palm of the underling—little less opposed than themselves to the *regime* of sanitary regulations. It is these rural tracts, this innumerable firmament of hut and hamlet (the village houses numbering over 7,00,000) scattered over a total area of 112,612 square miles, where no eye can hope at all times to see, no hand to penetrate—whose millions call for sanitary aid, but whose poverty makes it impracticable, that are the despair of the sanitary reformer. The difficulty in the cities is not so great; poverty is not so abject, and there is among the people more willingness to accept new ideas; and it is satisfactory to note that since 1888—the year of the publication of Lord Dufferin's celebrated Sanitary Resolution—the cities of Agra, Allahabad, Benares, and Cawnpore, and Lucknow have successively undertaken, completed, and opened extensive schemes of water-works, the distribution of filtered water having for the first time been commenced in each of these towns since December 1890. The real trouble in the large towns is the disposal of the sewage which this water produces. In the country the problem is different; the poverty is extreme, being equalled only by the ingorance and indifference, prejudice and passive resistance of the people, and it is probable that for a long time to come they will have to depend largely on wells and tanks and carried water. Sanitary efforts, then will have to be mainly occupied in endeavouring to keep clean the supply which already exists—in itself no mean task. The mere protection of the country wells, surrounding them with cemented platforms, providing them with clean apparatus for drawing, so that they shall not be befouled by those who use them and guarding them against misuse, would be a great work for any administration, and it is slowly going on. Improvement is no doubt gradually taking place, but the immensity of the population and the poverty in which they dwell, are great hindrances to progress. People, however, who talk of doing good to India should remember, that India's great want is water fit to drink. I wish, however, particularly to guard myself against the charge of looking at water carriage as covering the whole pathology of the disease, or explaining the etiology of its occasional epidemic prevalence. The drinking of the cholera poison is essential to the production of the disease, and the provision of pure water will prevent the necessity of drinking this poison, and so prevent the possibility of the disease developing, and as a sanitarian, that is for me sufficient. It must not be imagined, however, that because I insist so strongly on this life-saving side of the question, that I am blind to other of the facts of pathology and epidemiology. I am aware, as much as anyone can be that we have a great deal yet to learn regarding the causes of the epidemic spread of cholera, and it is to a continued investigation of these causes that I would urge my medical *confrères* in India. But this investigation must be always undertaken on the basis of established truth, and especially that great truth that cholera goes in at the mouth.

Snake-poison: the True Line of Research.

Since the publication of the epoch-making work of Sir Joseph Fayrer on "The Thanatophidia of India," great advances have been made in our knowledge of the nature of snake-poison. It has been found that this substance is closely allied in its composition to the poison of tetanus and diphtheria. Just as antitoxins have recently been discovered by Roux and Kanthack. It is very probable that the process which has been used with such success in the preparation of the diphtheria antitoxin would, *mutatis mutandis*, similarly yield large quantities of an antitoxin. by means of which some of the 20,000 lives that perish annually in India from snake-bite might be saved. Government have offered a reward of 20,10,000 rupees to the discoverer of an antidose to snake-poison. Surely it would be more likely to lead to practical consequences if an expert were engaged to study the nature and mode of preparation of this already known antitoxin, and of other pynological antitoxins of snake-poison.

Pharmacology.

Gentlemen, I must end here. Although sensible of the merely sketchy character of the outlines to which the limits of time have confined my address, I trust that you may find in it some elements of useful suggestion, some helps towards scientific progress along safe lines of work, some aids to the redress of grievances, some links towards the formation of a chain which shall bind all the members of the profession in fraternal union, and by union give them the greater strength. I have endeavoured at the obvious risk of dulness to avoid rhetoric or mere phrase-making. Pemmican is never the most attractive kind of food, but it is sustaining and enduring. May my words, spoken to-day, prove to have the like qualities. I feel deeply grateful for the distinguished honour you have done me on this and on former occasions. It has been the ambition of my life to deserve and to require such honour and such kindness by unremitting labour for the public good, and for the highest interests and duties of our common profession. To have achieved some success in that aim to-day will amply repay my labours and anxieties in coming to you from so far, and leaving behind me so much unfinished and suspended public work. It will be in your power to foster the growth of the seeds which I have endeavoured to sow. It will be the crown of a life spent wholly in the service of my professsion and of my country, as a fellow subject with you of the Kaiser-i-Hind, if I am allowed to see now and hereafter some evidence of having usefully helped the development of life-saving science, the enlargement of civic liberties, and the efficiency of the great public services in this vast Empire of ancient wonders and modern experimental marvels—this awe striking and beautiful India.

THE HISTORY OF A SCAR.

the back of my right hand—just about the
ddle of it—there is a small scar, half as big
a threepenny piece, perhaps. You would
er notice it unless I showed it to you, and
n then you would have to look sharp to see
But it's there, all the same, and will be
till the hand is returned to dust. It dates
k forty years, that scar does. Going home
m school one day another boy and I quar-
led and fought. Strange to say, it wasn't
out a girl either. Anyway, he drew his jack-
ife and stabbed me in the back of the right
nd. The wound I remember, was slow to
al. It was sore and inflamed for months,
d hardly a day but something hit it, or I
ocked it against something, and so made it
rse. My whole available body appeared to
concentrated in that sore. You know how
ch things are. They are like boils, and if
ere is any comfortable spot to have a boil
ere are loads of money waiting for the fellow
ho discovers it.

LATELY we have received two letters, both
ntaining an indentical expression, namely,
is: "*Everything seemed a trouble to me.*" Now,
ne of us are so tough as to be proof against
ouble, but when *everything* is a trouble to a
an the very heart inside of him must be
nder and touchy. And, Mercy knows, it is
often enough. Grief will do it, worry will do
, and illness too.

ONE of these letters, or at least the writer of
, goes on to say:—"It was in March, 1880,
at I felt tired and languid, and without my
sual energy. Before that I had always been
rong and active. Now I was low-spirited and
elancholy; everything seemed a trouble to
e. At first I had a bad taste in the mouth,
poor appetite, and all I ate gave me great
ain in the chest and sides. Even fish and
oultry gave me as much distress as more solid
od. I was constantly spitting up a sour, acid
uid which caused a miserable feeling in my
uth.

[illegible] for some time in this
[illegible] with gout in my hands
ad feet, which [illegible] me to the house now
[illegible] two at a time. The
[illegible] and swollen, and gave
[illegible] I could not bear any-
[illegible] For four years I was
[illegible] icks. The doctor who
[illegible] to ease me temporarily,
[illegible] s ever.

[illegible] April, 1888, I read that
ases like mine had been cured by Mother
eigel's Curative Syrup, and I thought I would
y it. I hadn't taken more than half a bottle
hen I felt relieved. This encouraged me to
eep on with the Syrup, and in a comparatively
short time all symptoms of the disease left
e. Since then I have enjoyed excellent
ealth, and whenever I feel a twinge of my old
nemy a dose or two of 'Mother Seigel' soon
ets me right. Yours truly, (Signed) M. LEAHY,
9, Grosvenor Terrace, Grosvenor Park, Cam-
erwell, London, September 22nd 1892."

So much for the facts as Mr Leahy felt them
What was science to offer in explanation of
nem? This Gout, rheumatism, and bilious-
ess are three complaints arising indirectly
om an overworked liver or, more properly,
om indigestion and dyspepsia. The poisons
engendered may lie hidden and unfelt for a
ng time, and then be suddenly rendered
ctive by mental worry, exposure, over eating,
rong eating, or any of a dozen other causes
he kidneys fail (following the stomach and
ver), the acid poison remains in the blood and
sets up inflammation in the Joints, and the re-
tained fluids produce dropsy. All sorts of dis-
turbances are apt to go with this condition of
things, every one less a disease in itself than a
symptom of the *one cause*—indigestion and
dyspepsia. The heart and lungs are often
attacked in sympathy. Cure the torpid diges-
tion, and an all-round improvement at once
succeeds. To do this is in the power of Mother
Seigel's Curative Syrup—as perhaps, in the
power of nothing else.

It was most unfortunate that this gentleman
suffered for eight years; and no wonder, mean-
while, that his mind was sensitive as his body
to every approach. Knowing what he *now*
knows he feels safe. *There is no darkness but
ignorance*, and the German Nurse shows "The
Way Out."

J. M. P.

London, October, 1892.

Municipal Elections to be held on 16th March 1895.

Notice is given that applications for correc-
tion of the published list of votes under
Section 21 of the Calcutta municipal Con-
solidation Act, 1888, will be received in the
Municipal Office up to 5 P. M. on the 17th
January 1895, after which date no applications
or objections will be received.

Applications will be received up to the same
date from all persons qualified under clauses
(a) or *(c)* of Section 8 of the above Act,
who are desirous of having their names added
to the list of voters.

Applicants for registration as voters under
clauses *(a)*, *(b)*, *(c)* and *(d)* of Section 8
should submit with their applications their
receipted rate-bills for the 3rd quarer 1894-95
and licenses for professions, trades, or callings
for the year 1894-95.

Applicants under clause *(e)* of Section 8
should submit duly paid rate-bills and licens-
es for the year 1893-94.

Applicants who are entitled to vote in more
than one ward, should make separate applica-
tions in respect of each ward.

W. R. MACDONALD,
Secretary to the Corporation.

2nd January 1895.

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17.	Haji Kasim Ariff	... 100
18.	Lieutenant-General th[illegible] Hon'ble Sir H. Bracken[illegible]y, K[illegible]	... 100
	Babu Jai Go[illegible]	[illegible]
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WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

VOL. XIV. CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, JANUARY 12, 1895. WHOLE NO. 657.

CONTEMPORARY POETRY.

TO A BABY KINSWOMAN.

LOVE, whose light thrills heaven and earth,
Smiles and weeps upon thy birth,
Child, whose mother's love-lit eyes
Watch thee but from Paradise.
Sweetest sight that earth can give,
Sweetest light of eyes that live,
Ours must needs, for hope withdrawn,
Hail with tears thy soft spring dawn.
Light of hope whose star hath set,
Light of love whose sun lives yet,
Holier, happier, heavenlier love
Breathes about thee, burns above,
Surely, sweet, than ours can be,
Shed from eyes we may not see,
Though thine own may see them shine
Night and day, perchance, on thine.
Sun and moon that lighten earth
Seem not fit to bless thy birth:
Scarce the very stars we know
Here seem bright enough to show
Whence in unimagined skies
Glows the vigil of such eyes.
Theirs whose heart is as a sea
Swoln with sorrowing love of thee
Fain would share with thine the sight
Seen alone of babes aright,
Watched of eyes more sweet than flowers
Sleeping or awake; but ours
Can but deem or dream or guess
Thee not wholly motherless.
Might they see or might they know
What nor faith nor hope may show,
We whose hearts yearn toward thee now
Then were blest and wise as thou.
Had we half thy knowledge,—had
Love such wisdom,—grief were glad,
Surely, lit by grace of thee;
Life were sweet as death may be.

Now the law that lies on men
Bids us mourn our dead: but then
Heaven and life and earth and death,
Quickened as by God's own breath,
All were turned from sorrow and strife:
Earth and death were heaven and life.
All too far are then and now
Sundered: none may be as thou.
Yet this grace is ours—a sign
Of that goodlier grace of thine,
Sweet, and thine alone—to see
Heaven, and heaven's own love, in thee.
Bless them, then, whose eyes caress
Thee, as only thou canst bless.
Comfort, faith, assurance, love,
Shine around us, brood above,
Fear grows hope, and hope grows wise,
Thrilled and lit by children's eyes.
Yet in ours the tears unshed,
Child, for hope that death leaves dead,
Needs must burn and tremble; thou
Knowest not, seest not, why nor how,
More than we know whence or why
Comes on babes that laugh and lie
Half asleep, in sweet-lipped scorn,
Light of smiles outlightening morn,
Whence enkindled as is earth
By the dawn's less radiant birth
All the body soft and sweet
Smiles on us from face to feet
When the rose-red hands would fain
Reach the rose-red feet in vain
Eyes and hands that worship thee
Watch and tend, adore and see
All these heavenly sights, and give
Thanks to see and love and live.
Yet, of all that hold thee dear,
Sweet, the dearest smiles not here.
Thine alone is now the grace,
Haply, still to see her face;
Thine, thine only now the sight
Whence we dream thine own takes light.
Yet, though faith and hope live blind,
Yet they live in heart and mind
Strong and keen as truth may be:
Yet, though blind as grief were we
Inly for a weeping-while,
Sorrow's self before thy smile
Smiles and softens, knowing that yet,
Far from us though heaven be set,
Love, bowed down for thee to bless,
Dares not call thee motherless.

ALGERNON CHARLES SWINBURNE.

—The Nineteenth Century.

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WEEKLYANA.

KING-EMPEROR William, "as a descendant of the great King whose life Carlyle so vividly and nobly described," has "begged Mr. Poulteney Bigelow, as one of the Committee for the preservation of Thomas Carlyle's house in Chelsea by buying it as a museum, to note him for a contribution of one hundred pounds in aid of the fund."

***

THERE died, on Dec. 12, at Soutspark, within three miles of Ballintubber, Mrs. Mary Brien, at the age of 110 years. She remembered the landing of the French at Killala. A widow named Ann Gale, bed-ridden for twenty years, died suddenly, at Powerstock, near Bridport, aged 102 years. She had good appetite and not a hair of her head had turned grey.

***

THE late Edmund Yate's library is announced for sale. Along with the books will be sold the writing-slope or desk which once belonged to Charles Dickens and was used by him on the day of his death and, after his directions regarding certain familiar objects of his study to be distributed among those who loved him, was presented by his executrix to Edmund Yates.

***

LAST month, at Christie's, a sheet of pen drawings by Michael Angelo fetched 380 guineas. On one side of the sheet are two different compositions for Holy Families, or perhaps Charities; on the other, an allegorical subject of a woman and child seated upon the ground, with some verses of a satirical nature.

***

IN the United States Court at Chicago, in the Railway Strike case, Judge Woods, on Dec. 14, found Eugene V. Debs, the leader of the strike, guilty of contempt of court, and sentenced him to six months' imprisonment.

***

WE quote the remarks of Herr Jacob Bolin on physical exercise as a counterpoise to sedentary study :—

"When yor are sitting at your desk for any appreciable length of time, sunk in profound thoughts, these thoughts, however pure and lofty, are actually poisoning your brain, decreasing its aptitude for the work in hand, and you will find as time passes that you are not able to keep your attention fixed, your will-power has lost its grip, your memory is deteriorated, you cannot grasp an idea as before, and there creeps over you a certain feeling of lassitude and dulness; your temples throb, your face is flushed, there is a sensation of fulness, your head aches. And all this because your thoughts—your mental work—has pumped into your head a quantity of blood giving the necessary fuel for these thoughts, but there has been no agent at work strong enough to remove the ashes and refuse. But rise from your table, take a few deep inhalations, move your arms in rhythm with the respiration, walk for a quarter of an hour, and you will probably find the unpleasant symptoms gone, and yourself ready to begin anew; your attention, which was wandering, has become fixed, your will-power is stronger, your memory its own self, your ideas from vague have become clear and your conclusions more logical."

***

SIR Charles Crosthwaite not being well has gone home on three months' medical leave. Mr. Alan Cadell, Senior Member of the Board of Revenue, officiates as Lieutenant-Governor of the N.-W. Provinces and Chief Commissioner of Oudh.

***

MR. Justice Tyrrell, owing to ill health, has retired from the bench of the Allahabad High Court.

***

RAJA Siva Prasad who retired to obscurity with the death of the Maharaja Iswariprasad of Benares, is to the fore again. Inflammatory letters supposed to have been written by him have been received in the Dead Letter Office of the Postal Department from Poona, Satara, Ghazipur, Mirzapur and other places, and the Benares Police is enquiring into the matter. The letter runs thus :—

"Be it known that within two years at the advent of the Russians the English will fly away, plundering the country and leaving its people wretched, miserable and poor. They are groaning under the heavy yoke of the British rule. Therefore, it behoves all true well-wishers of our country to bestir themselvas now, so that in time of need they may be able to defend their hearths and home."

***

THE Hon'ble Mr. Lal Mohun Ghose, as Honorary Magistrate, Sealda, tried a washerman on a charge of having misappropriated clothing valued at Rs. 150 and belonging to a European, found him guilty and sentenced him to three months' rigorous imprisonment.

JOGESWAR ROY CHOWDHRY, described as a Zemindar of Baraset, has been sentenced, by Mr. Knox Wight, the Additional Sessions Judge of Alipore, to two years' hard labour. He was charged with committing forgery by altering the date of the copy of a decree barred by limitation. The man pleaded ignorance, but the jury unanimously found him guilty.

***

RAI Gunga Prasad Singh Bahadar of Durbhanga has obtained the thanks of the Bengal Government by an offer of Rs. 12,000 for the construction of a hospital at Laheria Serai, in memory of his late father, Rai Banwari Lal Sahu Bahadar. Are Singh and Sahu of the *Calcutta Gazette* the same?

***

WITH the release from jail of Mr. Donald Gasper, the *Sunday Times* revived and is in trouble once more. At the instance of Mr. F. A. Perroux, the managing proprietor of the newly started *Competitionwallah*, the Northern Division Magistrate has ordered a summons against Gasper for defamation. The statements of the *Times* complained of are that the *Competitionwallah* has a circulation of only 300 copies, that that newspaper is an abortion and that the Race tips sold by it are worthless. Mr. Cranenburgh, in applying for the process, informed the court that the *Competitionwallah* was largely circulated and all the advertisements in it were genuine.

***

WE read :—

"The other day in the Lord Mayor's Court, the case of 'Honour *v.* Simpson' came on for hearing, before Mr. Roxburgh, the Assistant Judge. It was a judgment summons taken out by a money-lender trading in the City under the style of Honour, Sakespeare, and other names against Mr. Simpson, a Post Office clerk, to enforce payment of a judgment debt amounting to £17 9s. 8d. Mr. Forrest, solicitor, appeared for the plaintiff. The defendant, who conducted his case in person, said he borrowed £3 from the plaintiff, and gave a promissory note in return for £15. The plaintiff verbally promised him that he could take up the note on payment of £3 15s in a month, but he was subsequently advised that he could not do so, as the term was not incorporated in the written agreement. Seven months afterwards the plaintiff signed judgment against him for £17 9s. 8d. The learned Judge remarked that it was an extraordinary case. He asked the plaintiff's solicitor whether he desired to have an opportunity of meeting the defendant. Mr. Forrest : No, my lord; I have judgment, and I ask you to make an order upon it. The learned Judge : Yes, you have got your judgment and are entitled to an order. But there is evidently something wrong with the law, when it is possible for one man to lend another £3 in April of this year, and in November to sign judgment against the borrower for £17 9s. 8d. I think some legislator ought to make an endeavour to alter the law of the land when such a thing as that is possible. I cannot send this man to prison for not paying the instalment. If you insist upon your right to an order, I shall direct the defendant to pay 6d. a month. All I have to add is that you, a professional man, must know that the plaintiff's verbal promise to allow the note to be taken up on payment of £3 15s. was worth nothing. If he meant that that should be so, he should have incorporated it in the bill. His promise was worth nothing. I am told the interest charged is at the rate of 1,200 per cent.; it is scandalous. Mr. Forrest said that rather than take 6d. a month he would, on behalf of his client, accept whatever sum his lordship thought reasonable. In the result, by consent of the parties, the amount of the judgment debt was reduced to £6 10s. and the defendant ordered to pay the amount by monthly instalments of 10s."

Most rightful Judge!

***

IN the last B. L. examination of the Calcutta University, the Ripon College stands prominent. The first passed candidate in order of merit is from that College, and thirty more have passed in the second division. There are three more students in the first division, namely, one from the T. N. Jubilee College, Bhagalpur, one from the Patna College and one from the Metropolitan Institution. The total number in the second division is 71. Of these, besides the thirty from the Ripon College, the Metropolitan claims 15, the City College 12, the Patna College 4, the Morris College 4, the Dacca College 2, and the Rajshahi College, the Hooghly College, the Midnapore College and the Berhampore College, each, one.

***

IN the M. A. Examination, in English, the Dacca College beats the Presidency College. In Class I two students have passed, the first from the Dacca College and the second from the Presidency College. In the second and third Classes, the Presidency College and private students figure prominently. In Sanskrit, the Sanskrit College passes two students, one each in the second and third classes. In Arabic, class II, there are two private students and in Persian class I. only one—again a private student. The Presidency College and the F. C. Institution and Duff College equally divide the honour among them-

selves in Mental and Moral Philosophy in classes I and II. In III again a private student. In Natural and Physical Science.—A., Chemistry—the Presidency College returns two in class I and 3 in class III, the Rajshahi College coming in for 1 in class II. In C the Presidency College has the sole distinction, 2 in class II and 5 in class III. So also in F., Geology and Mineralogy where only one student is successful in class III.

***

WE missed Hajee Noor Mahomed Zakariya for some time. He has just been appointed a member of the Mahomedan Burial Board for Calcutta, *vice* the Hon'ble Mr. Justice Ameer Ali, who in February goes "home" on six months and twenty days' leave.

***

A FIRE in Pepal Mandi, Peshawar, has destroyed twenty-two buildings, mostly shops.

***

PART of the Great Weir at Khanki, the head quarters of the Chenab Canal system, has sunk, causing the closing of the canals.

***

THE Prime Minister of Tonk, Sahebzada Mahomed Obaidullah Khan writes to the *Pioneer* :—

"I was sorry to read in your paper of the 22nd instant a paragraph in the third page, quoted from the Lahore paper, asserting that the Mahomedans of Tonk have organised a crusade against the Gujars of the State, on the ground that the latter eat pork, and therefore the former should not purchase milk from them. I would, therefore, ask you to be good enough to do justice to the Mahomedans of the Tonk State by publishing that the above statement has no truth whatever. It is not the Gujar sect only that eat pork, but Minas, Rajputs and some other sects also who use it as part of their food, and there is no reason why grudge should be shown towards only one of the several parties, all of which form part of the Hindu population of the State. The Gujars form in Tonk the best sepoys of the State Police and army, and their services in these departments are much appreciated in this State. I trust you will see that the publication of such an unfounded news in such a widely circulated paper as the *Pioneer* will prove very injurious, especially at the time when the feeling of the two religious bodies are so highly excited in some parts of India now-a-days; and therefore the contradiction of the false rumour is very essential. In Tonk it is the Gujars only from whom we get a large portion of milk for our food, and there are few milk shop-keepers that do not get milk from Gujars. Had the milk from Gujars been stopped for a day only the people of Tonk, including Hindus and Mahomedans without exception, would have suffered as much as if starved as milk constitutes part of the food of almost every one, in its original or some other compounded or changed form. When His Highness the Nawab or any noble of Tonk shoots any pork anywhere in the territory of Tonk, the Gujars and others are with pleasure called and given the game."

It is satisfactory to find the Prime Minister contradicting an unfounded report, showing at once his anxiety about his administration and the regard due to the press of the country. That press is under a ban in the Native States. Yet it is the press that can keep them straight or show up injustice done them by the Residents and the Foreign Office.

NOTES & LEADERETTES,

OUR OWN NEWS,

&

THE WEEK'S TELEGRAMS IN BRIEF, WITH OCCASIONAL COMMENTS.

THE degradation of Captain Alfred Dreyfus, of the French Artillery, condemned for communicating confidential documents to foreign Powers, was a dramatic scene. He was led into the courtyard of the Ecole Militaire, and in the presence of five thousand troops of the Paris garrison paraded for the occasion, his epaulettes were stripped off and his sword broken. Captain Dreyfus cried out, "I am innocent, *Vive la France*," and begged journalists who were present to report the words he uttered. Several French officers shouted, "Silence Judas, your offence justifies the punishment." Long before the appointed time people began to assemble outside the Ecole Militaire, and at the appointed hour a dense multitude had collected who, while the penalty was being carried out, hissed and yelled "Death to the traitor."

DEAFNESS An essay describing a really genuine Cure for Deafness, Singing in Ears, &c., no matter how severe or long-standing, will be sent post free.—Artificial Ear-drums and similar appliances entirely superseded. Address THOMAS KEMPE, VICTORIA CHAMBERS, 119, SOUTHAMPTON BUILDINGS, HOLBORN, LONDON.

LORD Randolph Churchill is slightly improved. He sleeps well and is able to take a fair amount of nourishment, but there is no permanent improvement.

PRINCE Bismarck has been visited by the new German Chancellor Prince Hohenlohe. This visit is the prelude to that of the Emperor himself.

A JOINT conference of cotton employers and cotton operatives held at Manchester in December last, passed the following resolution :—

"That this representative conference of Lancashire cotton employers and cotton operatives protest most strongly against the policy of reimposing the import duties on cotton goods and yarns, even though a countervailing excise duty should be placed upon similar goods produced in India, and is of opinion that such excise duty cannot be made to effectually remove the protective incidence of the proposed legislation."

Another meeting was held on the 8th January, Seven M. P.'s were present, and a resolution was passed asking the supporters of the movement in the House of Commons to submit a motion to the House condemning the imposition of import duties as a reactionary and unjust policy, objecting to the taxation of England's greatest industry in order to relieve Indian finance, and expressing the opinion that it is better to subsidise India than cripple the Manchester trade.

The *Times* commenting on the meeting dwells upon the fallacy of the proposal to subsidize India from the Imperial Exchequer, and observes that, if India were a self governing Colony, the imposition of duties on British goods would be far more extensive than those now introduced into India.

JAPAN refuses to grant any armistice. Mr. Denby, the United States Minister, believes that all attempts at negotiations for peace will prove fruitless until Pekin has been occupied. Landing parties from Japanese war vessels are exploring the bays along the coast of Shantung. The Japanese have just captured Kuphing after four hours' severe fighting The Chinese fled towards Haishaksa and were closely pursued.

The *Times* publishes a letter from its correspondent in Japan describing four days' horrible butchery of unarmed Chinese attended with nameless atrocities that followed upon the capture of Port Arthur. Among the inhumanities perpetrated, groups of prisoners were tied together, and riddled with bullets or hacked to pieces. The *Times* admits that the Japanese received great provocation on account of barbarities and mutilations inflicted upon a few Japanese prisoners captured by the Chinese, but the disgrace of the cold-blooded butcheries rests with the Japanese Army and upon the General whose failure to arrest such merciless slaughter has cast an indelible blot upon the Japanese arms.

MONS C. RESSMANN, the Italian Ambassador at Paris, has been suddenly recalled, on account of his friendly relations with the Italian ex-Premier the Marquis Rudini.

THE military authorities at Kassala are making great preparations for the anticipated attack of the Dervishes. The town has been put in a thorough state of defence, fresh cannon have been mounted and large supplies of munitions and provisions have been collected

THE Czar has sent to General Gourko a letter couched in extremely flattering terms accepting the resignation of his Governorship of Warsaw, hoping that his health may recover to enable him to hold a future office. The letter is regarded as showing no change in the intended policy of Russianizing Poland.

ARRANGEMENTS have been made for a delegation of the Scots Greys to proceed to St Petersburg about the end of January for the purpose of personally congratulating the Czar on his appointment to the Colonelcy of their regiment. The members of the mission will stay a short time in Berlin *en route* to St. Petersburg, and will be received and entertained by the German Emperor.

THE German Redcross Society has voted five hundred pounds sterling to be sent to the seat of war in aid of the work which is now being carried on by the Japanese Redcross Society.

MR. Gladstone has started for Cannes. In reply to the address presented by a deputation of Irish Americans, Mr. Gladstone declared that the interest he felt in Ireland would only end with his life, and took the opportunity of insisting upon the necessity for unity amongst the Nationalists.

THE Russian Budget for 1895 shows an excess of expenditure over revenue of seventy million roubles. It is proposed to cover this deficit by the withdrawal of cash from the reserve treasury.

SEVERE snowstorms and intense cold are reported from Scotland and various places on the Continent. The village of Oulu in the French Pyrenees has been engulfed by an avalanche. Fifteen persons perished, and eight were injured.

SIR Henry F. Ponsonby, for many years Private Secretary to the Queen-Empress, has had a paralytic stroke, and lies in a very critical condition.

A LETTER from Mr. Curzon published in the *Times*, describes the visit of the writer to Kabul. Mr. Curzon is much impressed with the kingly bearing and strikingly statesmanlike conversation of the Amir, who is absolutely resolved to visit England if his health permits the journey being undertaken. The *Times*, commenting upon the letter, promises a splendid welcome to one who has been such a steady friend of Great Britain.

MR. Fowler has favourably received an offer from India to construct the proposed Ahmedabad-Prantij Railway on a rupee basis. The India Office cordially approves of railway extension on capital raised in rupees instead of in gold. Mr. Fowler attaches the greatest importance to the development of Indian Railways, and hopes that joint action on the part of the State and private companies will supply the Indian people with the needful facilities for rapid and cheap transport.

PRESIDENT Cleveland has sent a message to Congress recommending that the permission of America should be given to Hawaii to lease a small island to Great Britain to serve as a station for the cable between Canada and Australia.

THE Calcutta Municipal elections have been fixed for the 16th March. Preliminary arrangements are being made at the Municipal Office. An advertisement in another column requires the ratepayers to apply for mutation of names by the 17th January. This is a necessary and important step towards a correct register of voters. Owners and occupiers of premises assessed at between Rs. 150 and Rs. 300, holders of licenses for carriages and horses or for trades and professions, have special need to reply to the advertisement. For, unless they exert themselves, they will be omitted from the final list. The Chairman is not bound by law to enter them in his first list. They have, however, the right to vote at elections and to stand as candidates. If they neglect the opportunity offered them now, they must not grumble afterwards.

AS an offshoot of the Indian Medical Congress, branches of the National Health Society of England are to be established in India For that purpose there was a Drawing Room meeting at Belvedere. Sir Charles Elliott on behalf of Lady Elliott opened the proceedings by introducing Mr. Earnest Hart to the assembly. Mr. Hart then gave a brief statement of the work done by the parent society and how it was done. After some speaking, the meeting approved of the work done by the Society in England and its proposed extension to India for the spread of health knowledge among all classes of the Indian population. They next resolved that European and Indian ladies could render good service to the community by taking part in the work and that it was desirable that mixed representative committees be formed for the purpose in Calcutta. Subscriptions were then raised, and after partaking of tea hospitably provided by Lady Elliott, the several ladies and gentlemen dispersed rejoicing that they had done a good deed.

SINCE the blundering of Sir George Campbell, Civilian Judges were not thought of for the Original Side of the High Court. The barrier has been broken for some time, but the disability of native Judges to dispense Original justice continued. That record too has come to an end, for Mr. Justice Ameer Ali is holding since this week an Original Court. We may now expect Messrs. Justices Banerjee and Ghose to preside at the criminal sessions.

MR. Justice Trevelyan has left India on eight months' furlough. The vacancy on the High Court Bench thus caused has been filled by Mr. H. W. Gordon, who has established a claim by acting as a Judge on several previous occasions.

THE *Indian Daily News* says :—

"We notice that it is stated that Nawab Syed Amir Hossein will probably be appointed to the Viceregal Council. If so, we can only say that it is a matter for the utmost possible regret."

The utmost possible regret? There is more in this short paragraph than the *News* has chosen to say. Are not such oracular expressions of opinion like stabs in the dark?

KUMAR Gopendra Krishna has been confirmed as Inspector-General of Registration in place of Mr. H. Holmwood. How Nawab Ameer Hossein must curse the hour when he was led to refuse the last officiating appointment unless he was paid a larger salary than his present pay! Those who advised him would not move another step when the Secretary of State, while sanctioning the increase on the first occasion when the Nawab Presidency Magistrate officiated as Inspector-General, would, on subsequent occasions, restrict his pay to the pay that he was drawing as Magistrate.

ONE of the resolutions of the Indian Medical Congress, unanimously adopted by the unofficial members, condemns the last section of the Cantonment Act Amendment Bill recommended by the Secretary of State to the Government of India. The Bill consists of three sections in all. The first section is merely preliminary. The second restrains the Government of India from making any rule for controlling a certain class of women. The third prohibits their examination by any medical man under the penalty of a fine of Rs. 100. The objection of the unofficial members particularly touches this penal provision, in which they see a want of confidence in the medical servants of Government. Cannot the latter be trusted to carry out loyally and humbly the orders of the Government they serve? That is the question asked. Whatever the measure of the medical lore of these resolutionists, they are, it seems sadly deficient in that legal knowledge which, even as medical men, they should never be without. There can be no legislation for the prevention of any act without a sanction to enforce the prevention. Let not women of a certain class be examined against their consent, says the Bill. It is impossible to pass it without providing a sanction to enforce what the Bill intends. To oppose the sanction on the ground that it would imply a want of confidence on the part of Government in its own servants, is as sane as to oppose all existing sanctions provided in laws restraining other classes of Government servants from practices declared illegal by those laws. It is a juridical question against which the congressists are knocking their heads. It is impossible to enact a law that will only interdict a practice without a penal provision for enforcing the interdiction. Our medical men were not always so unreasonable. That so many educated gentlemen should have discovered such ignorance of one of the fundamental principles of penal legislation, is certainly lamentable. Although they object to the entire Bill, yet their language shows that they would accept it, at least unwillingly, if only the sanction be withdrawn. With their notions of what is due to Government servants, it would be interesting to set some of them to amend all our penal laws, including the civil, military and medical service regulations which contain semi-penal provisions for enforcing a proper attention to duty.

To these unofficial medical congressists we would particularly recommend the following extract from Bentham's Book of Fallacies compiled from his papers after his death, and in noticing which Sydney Smith produced his immortal Noodle's Oration. Under the head "Self-Trumpeter's Fallacy," Bentham observes : "There are certain men in office who, in the discharge of their functions, arrogate to themselves a degree of probity, which is to exclude all imputations

and all enquiry. Their assertions are to be deemed equivalent to proof; their virtues are guarantees for the faithful discharge of their duties; and the most implicit confidence is to be reposed in them on all occasions. If you expose any abuse, propose any reform, call for securities, inquiry, or measures to promote publicity, they set up a cry of surprise, amounting almost to indignation, as if their integrity were questioned, or their honour wounded. With all this, they dexterously mix up intimations that the most exalted patriotism, honour and, perhaps, religion, are the only sources of their actions."

PROTAP CHUNDER ROY is dead. He had been ailing for months and succumbed to the complication of diseases early yesterday morning, at the age of 53 years. Of humble origin, he lived to make his name known throughout the civilized world. He has done a service to his country and to the world by his publication of the Mahabharat—that storehouse of ancient Hindu legends of chivalry and philosophical speculations of every shade—in English. Orientalists of all countries have acknowledged his devotion to the ancient Indian literature. Their letters to him of congratulation and satisfaction make a goodly volume. Roy has not, however, lived to see the completion of the great work. We hope those in immediate charge will be enabled to bring the publication to its proper close. Already 92 fasciculi have appeared. There remain 8 more to be done and published. The Marquis of Hartington, the present Duke of Devonshire, while Secretary of State for India, had encouraged the publisher in his grand project. The India Office Librarian, speaking on behalf of the Secretary of State, said that the Mahabharata, if translated into English, "would supply a want long felt, and be a real boon to the ever-increasing band of students of Indian history and archæology." The translation has been acceptable "Trubner's American, European and Oriental Literary Record" speaks of it thus: "His English is idiomatic and clear. His terminology is flowery, and many of his passages are decidedly Oriental in their character. There is, in fact, a peculiar charm about his pages which cannot fail to fascinate the promiscuous reader, and yet, although the work is at all times pleasant reading, the accuracy of rendering is nowhere sacrificed by the translator to his desire to be entertaining." Sir Edwin Arnold also writes:—"I may remark that, comparing several passages of your translation with the Sanskrit, I have found it generally excellent, terse, faithful and most useful" If Roy passes away before completion of the work, he had had enough encouragement during its progress and was himself decorated with the Companionship of the Most Eminent Order of the Indian Empire.

The Indian Association for the Cultivation of Science.

210, Bow-Bazar Street, Calcutta.

(Session 1894-95.)

Lecture by Babu Ram Chandra Datta, F.C.S., on Monday, the 14th January, at 4-15 P. M. *Subject:* Zinc.

Lecture by Mr. B Chaudhuri, B. A., B. Sc., on Monday, the 14th Inst, at 5-30 P. M. *Subject:* Biology—The Reproduction and Life History of Animals.

Lecture by Babu Ram Chandra Datta, F C S, on Tuesday, the 15th Inst., at 4-15 P.M. *Subject:* Barium, Strontium and Calcium.

Lecture by Dr. Nilratan Sarkar, M. A., M D., on Wednesday, the 16th Inst., at 5-30 P. M. *Subject:* Chemical Physiology—Casein.

Lecture by Babu Rajendra Nath Chatterjee, M. A., on Wednesday, the 16th Inst., at 6-30 P. M. *Subject:* Penumatics. (continued).

Lecture by Babu Syamadas Mukherjee, M A, on Thursday, the 17th Inst., at 4 P. M. *Subject*. Special forms of the equation of the second degree

PRACTICAL CLASS in Chemistry under Babu Ram Chandra Datta, F C.S., on Thursday, the 17th Inst., at 4-15 P. M. *Subject:* Lead salts.

Lecture by Mr. B. Chaudhuri, B. A., B Sc., on Thursday, the 17th Inst., at 5-30 P. M. *Subject*: Histology—Blood. (continued)

Lecture by Dr. Mahendra Lal Sircar, on Friday, the 18th Inst., at 6-30 P. M. *Subject:* Propagation of Heat—Conduction.

Lecture by Mr. B Chaudhuri, B. A., B. Sc., on Saturday, the 19th Inst., at 4 P. M. *Subject*: Practical Biology—Frog (continued).

Lecture by Mr. B. Chaudhuri, B. A, B. Sc., on Saturday, the 19th Inst., at 5 P. M. *Subject:* General Biology—Past History of Animals and their Geographical Distribution.

Admission Fee, Rs. 4 for Physics, and Rs. 4 for Chemistry; Rs. 6 for both Physics and Chemistry; Rs. 4 for Physiology; Rs. 4 for General Biology; Rs. 6 for complete course of Physiology and Biology. The charge for a single lecture is 2 Annas.

MAHENDRA LAL SIRCAR, M.D.,
Honorary Secretary.

January 12, 1895.

REIS & RAYYET.

Saturday, January 12, 1895.

THE INDIAN MEDICAL CONGRESS.

MEDICINE THROWN OVERBOARD.

THE proper or legitimate sphere of the science of medicine, so called, is to study those changes brought about in the human organism which are known by the name of disease, and to investigate the action of drugs on that organism, both in its normal and abnormal states, with a view to discover the methods and, if possible, the laws, under which cures may be effected. So far as the action of drugs on the human organism in health is concerned, a considerable progress has been effected. Since the days of Hippocrates and Galen, or Punarvasu and Charaka, so great, indeed, has been the advance in this direction, *viz.*, the physiological action of drugs, that a new name, pharmacology, has been bestowed on this branch of learning. Unfortunately, however, pathology, or the study of the human organism in disease, has made very little progress. Rational or scientific therapeutics, again, can hardly be regarded to have made any advancement. Medical men are all empirics notwithstanding their mutual admiration societies and the self-laudation in which they indulge. The following observations by Dr. Lauder Brunton, in course of the first Goulstonian lecture delivered by him before the Royal College of Physicians in London, establish this so happily that we do not scruple to place them before the reader.

"Although few persons possessing any knowledge of the history of medicine will deny that therapeutics has made some progress during the last thousand years, yet it is impossible to read the writings of the ancients without feeling that if some of the old Egyptian physicians, not to mention such men as Hippocrates and Galen, were to arise from their graves and commence practice, we should have little cause to sneer at their treatment, although we have the advantage of possessing the medical knowledge accumulated during the two or three thousand years which have elapsed since they flourished.

For those old Egyptians seem to have been acquainted with the use of emetics, enemata, and purgatives, those potent agents which are, perhaps, more used and more useful than any others in our own armamentarium. They paid attention to the diet of their patients. For the cure of dropsies, they used squills and iron.

An ancient Greek, in addition to employing drastics, squill, broom, and balsams, would have tapped the abdomen when the distension became great, and would have taken every precaution to prevent syncope from the operation.

These are the very methods of the modern physician; and, although he might give digitalis and blue pill along with the squills, and suggest nitrous ether and juniper, yet his reasons for this would be the same as those of the Egyptian or Greek—*viz.*, that he had seen the remedies prescribed do good before, and expected them to prove beneficial again. As to the *modus operandi* of these remedies, or the reason why they should succeed in one case and fail in another, the ancient and the modern would be almost equally in the dark; for medicine with both would be an art, not a science. * * * *

We do not know medicine as we do chemistry and physics. We have medical sciences; for physiology, pathology, and pharmacology, are justly beginning to

lay claim to the title; but medicine itself—the recognition and cure of disease—is still an art, and not a science."

None but the most blinded zealot can assert that medicine, in the state in which it now exists, can claim the title of science. To make this still more clear, we will follow Dr. Lauder Brunton in his observations on ague, the disease of all others which is best known and in which the power of medicine is most marked. A man, in passing through a particular district and more especially if he sleep anywhere in it, becomes attacked with a shivering fit. After some time the fit will be followed by a burning fever and then by profuse sweat after which he will feel comparatively well till the next day when he will have another shivering fit at the same hour followed by the same programme. The disease may be prevented if the man cannot avoid the place, by his taking cinchona alkaloids, or when he has got it, the physician may, by administering a large dose of quinine, before a paroxysm, prevent its approach and, by continuing the remedy, may ultimately prevent its recurrence. But what is the cause that produces these paroxysms? Medical science calls it *malaria* and hides its ignorance from the layman, for what *is* malaria? How does it act on the human mechanism? How does quinine succeed in counteracting the effects of what is called malaria? Why should quinine sometimes fail while arsenic succeeds? We predict the occurrence of an ague-fit and its prevention by the administration of quinine only empirically,—that is, by having seen its occurrence and prevention in the same manner in the cases of other persons. This, however, is not science. It is pure empiricism. The most eminent physician of our day is as much a quack while called upon to treat ague-fits as Punarvasu or Charaka was in the infancy of medicine in India.

We are surprised, therefore, at the tone of self-satisfaction in which the Medical Congress assembled at Calcutta indulged. None of those six to seven hundred men had anything to say on the legitimate sphere of medicine. The world's knowledge has not been advanced, or even sought to be advanced, by a single step regarding any of the diseases to which humanity in general or in India is subject. Instead of paying any attention to what properly belongs to them, they frittered away their time in reading papers on a variety of subjects that are of subsidiary moment to them as practitioners of the healing art. A man falls sick. It is necessary that he should betake himself to a good room in a good house, which house, again, should be situate in a particular quarter; that his bed should be of a certain description; that the garments he wears should be of a particular kind: that his diet should consist of certain articles that should, again, be cooked in a particular way; that he should have certain medicines, which, of course, the physician would prescribe depending upon such empiric knowledge as he has. Those medicines, again, may be vegetable or mineral preparations or products obtained from some animal. To be a competent physician, therefore, it would require some knowledge of engineering, as also of the science of laying out streets and lanes, along with meteorology; some acquaintance with the properties of cotton and wool; some idea of tailoring; some familiarity with cooking; some conversance with botany, mineralogy, zoology, with chemistry and physics, both which would be in requisition at almost every step. However cognate these subjects may be to that which should form the principal one of the physician's study, they are only cognate and subsidiary. What should be said of that man who sets himself up for a physician and takes up the study of those subsidiary branches of knowledge to the utter neglect of that for which alone he expects to be called to the bedside of suffering humanity? The Medical Congress of Calcutta has fairly laid itself open to the charge of attending to that which it could easily have laid aside, and utterly neglecting that to which it should have devoted its whole attention. To live in good, roomy, well-ventilated houses, situated in the midst of well-laid towns having excellent streets and drains, to always eat good nourishing diet easy of digestion, to wear clean vestments, to drink pure, filtered water drawn from fresh and moving currents, and to avoid stimulants and narcotics and nocturnal debauches, is what every man instinctively wishes. By leading such a course of life one would certainly be able to avoid disease and keep excellent health. But does it require a Congress of six to seven hundred medical men to assemble with so much *eclat* at the metropolis of British India for teaching the Indian people of all nations in the world to do all this? The people of India understand the rules of hygiene far better than most nations of the Earth. To the vast majority of the inhabitants of this country, their religion, which still exercises a living force, is a grand routine of hygiene. If they are not able to reduce their knowledge to practice, it is because of those inevitable conditions under which they have to live. The rice-swamps that surround every village in Bengal have existed from the dawn of history. Who would not like to drain them at once of the water that rests on them for more than half the year? Who would not like to convert Bengal, if he could, into a table-land with not a bog of even a mile's circuit anywhere in it? The people, however, are so poor that one meal a day is almost the rule with them throughout the year. Potherbs are their only curry, rags are their covering, and low huts with or without mud walls, are their habitations. Is there any man who would not like to see the Indian rayyet well-fed and well-clothed and well-housed? But what has the science of medicine to do with all this? It cannot be charged, that the Government is not aware of the state of things prevailing in the country. The financial resources, however, of that Government are utterly inadequate to carry out any wide or comprehensive scheme of drainage or water-supply. Filth and squalor and poverty will continue in India despite the utmost efforts of state or private philanthropy. Our medical men should take the country as it is, and seek to combat disease by means other than any wide and comprehensive scheme of prevention. The very necessity of studying the pathology and therapeutics of hydrophobia would certainly cease if all dogs in the world were killed. The stout Bagdis, therefore, that wage a war of extermination with the canine population of our towns are unquestionably greater benefactors to their fellow brethren than those medical men who rest content by pointing out to us how hydrophobia may be prevented by slaughtering all dogs. If all venomous snakes be killed, the morbid conditions produced by snake-bites and the remedies that require to be administered for removing them, will not then demand investigation and study. Supposing cholera to be really due to the comma bacilli, although millions of those organisms have

been devoured by Pettenkofer of Munich and his assistant without any harm to themselves even at a time when cholera was raging in Germany, the very necessity of studying cholera and the action of drugs administered in the hope of curing it would cease by carefully removing or killing those bacilli before we drink our glass of water. This then is the grand object which medical men in India, assembled together in Congress, have proposed to achieve for us: to exterminate all causes of disease in this land, with the help of legislation! The medical deputation that waited on the Indian Home Secretary could scarcely mean anything less. Let us then congratulate each other. A brighter era has dawned on us. India, under the auspices of its new Medical Congress, is going to be changed into a paradise. The work may take many long, long years to accomplish. Millions upon millions of rupees may have to be spent upon it. But that is not the question. The direction in which reform is to proceed has at last been found out. A beginning has been made. The rest is work of time. The science of medicine may safely be discarded. The Congress is wise. The wisest heads had sketched its plan. Not a paper has been read bearing upon the only branch of knowledge for which the profession is believed to exist.

In sober seriousness, who are they that are responsible for having planned it? We have a suspicion that Sir Charles Elliott is one of the movers. If the idea did not originate in his fertile brain, he must have taken it up with zeal after its conception. He is known to be a faddist where drainage and sanitation are concerned. The wisdom of his administration had been shattered on this very question—the question, *viz.*, of health by legislation and taxation The Indian Medical Congress has very opportunely come to the rescue. All honour, therefore, to Lord Elgin for the grave and statesmanlike views he enunciated while addressing the united medical wisdom of India. The farce has been played out. It has served its object by investing one of the fads of the present ruler of Bengal with dignity. We hope it will lead to no legislative sport and financial experiment on the suffering people of India.

A PURELY PERSIAN HISTORY OF INDIA.*

(Communicated.)

This is a history of the Mahomedan conquest of India in four volumes with a fifth as a vocabulary in which have been collected some purely Persian words used in the book, but which are not generally known. Commencing with the invasion of Mahomed Kasim in 44 Hijri or 664 A. D, the account ends with the death of Bahadur Shah, the last puppet King of Delhi, in 1279 Hijri or 1862 A. D. The author has confined himself to facts, and where authorities differ he has given the different statements, recording his own opinion with reasons as to which is likely to be the correct version. But that is not the only merit of the work. The volumes are free from religious bigotry. Any Hindu reading the account of Aurangzebe in the *Dastan* may mistake the writer for a Hindu. The author has fairly succeeded in condensing many facts worth knowing and rejecting those drawn from imagination.

It is known to Persian scholars how difficult it is to write even an ordinary letter in Persian without Arabic words. The Persian language, as it now is, contains about fifty per cent. of Arabic words, and it is generally believed that without the aid of Arabic words no intelligible decent Persian can be written. The author has, however, shown that not only Persian does not lose its beauty without Arabic words, but is sweeter without them. There is not a single Arabic word in these 2,600 pages. This is a remarkable feat. There is another book in Persian which contains no Arabic word, namely, the *Namah-i-Khwarawan* by Prince Jalal-ud-din Mirza, a cousin of the present Shah of Persia. This work was published at Teheran about a quarter of a century back. The *Shah Namah* of Firdausi has, it is said, no Arabic word. It does contain some which could easily have been avoided. For instance, in the *Shah Namah*, we find:—

Pas mahbat majlis arastand,
Nishastand o guftand o bar khastand.

Now, there are two Arabic words, *mahbat* and *majlis* which could have been replaced by the Persian words *kangash* and *bazm*. Thus we would have

Bakangash bazm-i biyarastand.
Nishastand o guftand o barkhastand.

without the rhyme or the metre being affected.

In Nawab Daulatyar Jung's work, words may be found which are generally recognized as Arabic, but a student of philology will at once see that they were originally Persian which the Arabs "misappropriated."

In the choice of Persian words the Nawab may be said to have achieved a greater success than the Persian prince, because the *Dastan* is much bigger than the *Namah-i khwarawan*. It should also be remembered that the Nawab, though a Persian by birth, wrote his work in Hyderabad after an absence of a quarter of a century from the classic land of Hafiz and Sadi and had not the advantages that the Persian prince could command.

From what has been said it is clear that Nawab Daulatyar Jung's work is the best book in modern Persian. An English gentleman who has himself successfully gone through the Persian drill and now holds a high political appointment, speaks of the book, thus:—"It treats of a most interesting period in the history of India and a work written in modern Persian would be far more useful to English students than those now prescribed for the High Proficiency and other examinations. It is the height of absurdity to prescribe a work like the *Insha* of Abul Fazl for English officers whose aim should be to obtain a good knowledge of Persian, colloquial and written, of the present day instead of that of a few centuries ago. Whether it will be possible to impress this view upon the Board of Examiners in Calcutta, I don't know .... It seems to be an article of faith that books written a few centuries ago in the most involved and flatulent style and the contents of which are utter rubbish, are the best text books for the Persian examinations. The real fact is that we have never had any one at Calcutta with a knowledge of modern Persian literature and very probably it is not known that any books have been written in that language since the date of Abul Fazl or the dreary and childish *Anwar i Suhali* ..... The *Dastan* is very well written and got up altogether ....."

NOTICE OF BOOKS.

MRINMAYI.*

This is a remarkable book. The author has, within the compass of about 120 pages, endeavoured to give an account of Astronomical Science as it flourished in ancient India. The best service that we can do him would be by noting the principal subjects he has discussed, with indications of the authorities he has cited.

In ancient India, as in other countries, two opinions prevailed regarding the motion that is observable of the heavenly bodies. One

* *Dastan-i-Turktazan-i-Hind* by Nawab Daulatyar Jung Bahadur of Hyderabad. Published by Agha Muhammad Jafar Tajir Ispahani, Fort, Bombay.

* *Mrinmayi* or Sanskrit Astronomical Geography; by Govinda Mohan Roy Vidyavinodavaridhi. Second edition; Calcutta. Printed by Gopal Chandra Ghosal, Jyotis Prokas Press, No. 5, Simla Street, and published by the author at Kakina.

of these was that the heavenly bodies revolve round the Earth as their centre. The other was that the Earth itself, with other planets, principal and subsidiary, move round the Sun as their centre. The well-known treatise, *Suryyasiddhanta*, which is very old and generally regarded to have been composed by a Danava of the name of Maya, advocates the fixity of the Earth and the motion of the sun and the other planets. We may, by way of parenthesis, remark that the name Maya is extremely suggestive. The architect employed by the Pándava princes, for raising their beautiful hall at Indraprastha, was named Maya. He too was a Danava, a circumstance that has led some to suppose that in all probability he was a Grecian foreigner. After all, unless the age of *Suryyasiddhanta* be definitely fixed, the question cannot be satisfactorily solved of Hindu Astronomy being entirely of indigenous growth and development. To return. It should be remembered that calculations based upon the Earth's fixity would not much differ from those based upon the Earth's revolution round the Sun. Though founded, therefore, upon this initial error, as an Astronomical treatise, the *Suryyasiddhanta* is not to be despised. Considering its antiquity, it has been highly praised by many celebrated Astronomers of Europe. Brahmagupta and others, accepting the fixity of the Earth, composed their own celebrated treatises. The second theory, *viz.*, the revolution of the Earth and the other planets round the Sun, was first propounded by Aryabhatta, whose well-known work was translated into Arabic and Persian. Mountstuart Elphinstone, in his History of India, has praised Aryabhatta very highly. His work is known under the name of *Aryasiddhanta*. There is abundant evidence to show that this great Astronomer, when he propounded the new theory of the revolution of the Earth, became an object of censure and persecution, like Copernicus and Galileo in Europe. Every schoolboy is now familiar with the proofs which modern European Astronomy adduces for establishing the revolution of the Earth. Almost all these proofs were adduced by Aryabhatta. The author of *Mrinmayi* quotes the original verses of Aryabhatta. The reader ought to be content with their translations. Here is one:—

"Even as a person in a (moving) boat sees all fixed objects moving in a direction opposite to the motion of his own boat, the fixed stars are, after the same manner, seen at Lanka (on the equator) to be uniformly moving westwards."

The heavenly bodies, apparently moving from East to West, establish the motion of the Earth from West to East.

Here is another:—

"The Zodiac is fixed. Only the Earth, ceaselessly turning round, causes the daily rising and setting of the planets and the stars."

Although the revolution of the Earth was established by such considerations by Aryabhatta, yet Brahmagupta and others, either blinded by prejudice or impelled by the desire of victory, confuted Aryabhatta's speculations. Here is how those blinded Astronomers sought to prove Aryabhatta's error:—

"If the Earth really turned round, why do not all elevated objects (such as towers and house-tops, &c.,) fall down?" This was Brahmagupta's objection. Another Astronomer, Sreepati Misra, urged, "If the Earth turned round, then, through the force of the wind generated by the velocity of the Earth's motion, flags, &c., would always have been seen to be floating in an opposite direction. House-tops and mountain summits would also have fallen down. Hence (as these are not seen), it is the heavenly bodies that move, and the Earth, called the fixed, is truly fixed."

Lallacharyya, another famous Astronomer, had this objection to urge against Aryabhatta:—

"If the Earth really revolved, then birds could never have returned to their respective nests (after leaving them); then arrows also, shot upwards, would have been seen to fall transversely towards the direction (west) of the lord of waters."

That the Earth, with the planetary and the stellar worlds, rests in space and not on the tortoise supported by the snake Ananta (supposed by some to represent Infinity), was well known to the Hindu Astronomers. Here is how this was put by that authoritative work entitled *Siddhanta-Shiromani*.

"The Earth's sphere, made up of earth, air, water, ether, and light, surrounded on all sides by the Moon, Mercury, Venus, Sun, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, and the stellar worlds, having no support, and depending on its own power, is resting always on empty space. On its exterior surface rests the eternal universe of matter with the subsequent creations of human beings and deities and demons on every side."

The following is plainer:—

"The Earth, adorned everywhere with mountains and gardens and villages and towns and large trees, is like a flower of the *Naulea Cadamba* with the filaments on its body."

The proofs adduced for the rotundity of the Earth were very similar to those with which every schoolboy is now familiar. That the eclipses were caused by the shadows of the moon and the Earth was well known. The circular character of the shadow was taken as indicative of the roundness of both the moon and the Earth. That the moon shines with light borrowed from the sun and not its own was also known. The following is a poetical description of this fact:—

"As a jar, placed in the Sun, has a portion of itself lighted (*viz.*, that which is exposed to the luminary) and has the portion opposite to it darkened even like the beautiful tresses of a maiden, after the same manner this nectarine sphere, *viz.*, the moon, has that portion lighted which is exposed to the Sun but has the opposite portion darkened."

The following from the great Bháshkara will be of interest:—

"If the Earth were as flat as the surface of a mirror, why would not human beings, like the celestials, always behold the sun moving in his course however remote he might be (from the Earth)?"

Lallácharyya adds:—

"If the Earth had the property of flatness, why then, oh, would not trees as tall as the palmyra and situate at a great distance, be always visible?"

The fact, therefore, of the rotundity of the Earth gradually hiding the tallest trees as we recede from them, was well understood. That day and night are due to the Earth's rotundity was also known to the ancient Hindu Astronomers. The Pauranik theory of day and night being caused by the Sun's motion round the Sumeru mountain was scouted by them. The following verse from *Suryyasiddhanta* explains why the Earth, instead of appearing round, seems flat.

"Human beings, in consequence of their smallness (compared to the magnitude of the Earth) always behold, from their standpoints, the Earth to be a circular plain although the Earth is a sphere."

That nothing but the geography of a sphere can satisfy this condition, was, of course, understood. The Earth, again, being spherical, all human beings on its surface would have it beneath their feet. Our antipodes would not thus feel themselves to be hanging with their heads downwards, nor we, as their antipodes, would hang with our heads down. This is noticed in *Suryyasiddhanta*. Bháshkarácháryya also has pointed it out with his usual clearness. With his usual felicity, the great Bháshkara combats the theory of the Earth's being supported by something else. His argument is that if the Earth were supported by anything else, that something would require a third support and so on, till in infinite space one must have to come to some support that has no other support. If so heavy a mass made up of infinite supports could rest in space, why suppose the impossibility of the Earth itself being supported in space? The theory of the Bauddhas that the Earth is ceaselessly falling down, has been scouted by all the Hindu astronomers. Bháshkara's argument against the Bauddhas is derived from the fact of an heavy object thrown upwards always returning to the Earth. If the Earth were ceaselessly falling down, an object

once thrown upwards would never more come into contact with it, for both being masses that are falling down, such contact would be impossible. So far from meeting, the Earth's mass being much greater, its velocity in falling will be greater, and, therefore, the distance between the Earth and the falling body will continually increase. A finer argument than this is adduced by Bháshkara in the following verse:---

"The Earth has the power of attraction. Hence, attracted towards the Earth by its own power, any heavy body thrown upwards, seems to fall down. Where would the Earth, however, which is itself in infinite space all round, fall?" The sense is that falling cannot be predicated of the Earth. On which side would it fall? Our antipodes would think that the Earth would fall in a direction that we regard as upwards. We would regard it, if it is falling, as falling in a direction that our antipodes call upwards. Bháshkara's argument for contradicting the theory of the Bauddhas about there being two Suns, two Moons, &c., is exceedingly subtle but very convincing.

The Hindu Astronomers conceived the Equator and divided it into 360 degrees. Lanka (the island of Ceylon) is on the Equator; 90 degrees to the East is Yamakoti; 90 degrees to the West is Romakapattan, and below is Sidhapura equidistant from Yamakoti and Romakapattan. It seems that the island of Ceylon has receded northwards since the time of Bháshkara, the southern parts having been completely washed away. As to Yamakoti and Romakapattan and Sidhapura, their positions on the map can be ascertained. But whether these were cities or islands or countries that had these names cannot be ascertained at this distance of time. The difference in time caused by difference of longitude was well-known to our ancestors. *Deçántara-danda* that is now added or subtracted by our astrologers in ascertaining the correct time of nativity, has reference to the Oujjain time (Oujjain was the place through whose observatory passed the first meridian).

Without following the author further into details yet more interesting and which show that the science of Astronomy had reached a high state of development, we would recommend a study of the book itself which Babu Gobinda Mohan has compiled. The reader will find every page of the work interesting and instructive. Much valuable matter is added in the foot-notes. These are replete with information. The author has studied Hindu Astronomy for many years. The object of his book is to show what the student of Hindu Astronomy may expect if he takes up that subject. It is more an introduction to that subject than anything else. We think, after the successful compilation of this book, the author may undertake to give us a regular treatise on Hindu Astronomy. *Suryya-siddhánta*, we hear, has been taken up by a European scholar. The great treatise of Aryyabhatta or Bháshkara may be successfully edited by Babu Gobinda Mohan.

DESPATCH ON THE COTTON DUTIES.

The Secretary of State writes as follows to the Viceroy, under date the 13th ultimo:---

My Lord,---I have considered in Council your Excellency's Confidential letter, No. 210, dated the 7th August 1894, with your colleague, Mr. Westland's Minute, regarding the imposition of import duties on cotton goods.

2. So far as a judgment can be formed at the present time, the Indian treasury requires an addition of a crore or a crore and-a-half to the present revenues. I observe that you still are of opinion that this addition can best be secured by the imposition of import duties on cotton goods. But Her Majesty's Government consider that, in accordance with the resolution of the House of Commons, these duties must not be protective in their nature.

3. Mr. Westland's Minute, embodying the results of a careful inquiry made by him into the circumstances of the Bombay cotton industry, concludes by recommending that import duties be imposed at the rate of,---

(a) 5 per cent. *ad valorem* on all cotton piece-goods;

(b) 3½ per cent. *ad valorem* on all cotton yarns of counts above 24; and that an excise duty of,---

(c) 3½ per cent. *ad valorem* be levied on all machine-made cotton yarns, produced at mills in British India of counts above 24.

Indian-made piece-goods would, thus pay excise duty on the yarn of which they are woven, whenever such yarns are finer than 24s. It is proposed that a drawback be paid on exported yarns or goods, and that negotiations be undertaken with Native States in view to their levying a similar excise duty upon yarns made at mills within their borders.

Your Government consider Mr. Westland's proposals to be the best way of meeting the requirements of her Majesty's Government that Indian cotton duties must not be protective.

4. I think that these proposals would comply with the requirements laid down, subject to two modifications of detail. First, I consider that the duty (import and excise) upon yarns should be at the same rate, 5 per cent. *ad valorem*, as on woven goods. I share the view expressed by the late Mr. James Wilson, in his Financial Statement of the 18th February, 1860, that for reasons which he there states, "the same duty may be placed on yarns as is charged on goods, without any perceptible injury to the trade." Moreover, I am not certain that a 3½ per cent. duty on yarns used in Indian fabrics might not, to some extent, protect Indian manufactures against imported goods of the same description, paying a 5 per cent. duty. Secondly, I am not satisfied that counts above 24 are, without doubt, the right line at which duty on yarns should begin. Mr. Westland shows good grounds for believing that imported yarns below 30s., and imported goods containing yarns below 30s., constitute a small proportion of the total importations of cotton-goods. But it seems that such goods are imported to some extent. Complete information on the subject does not appear to be available. On the whole, in order to prevent any possibility of the duties being protective, I consider the duty on yarns should begin with counts above 20 instead of 24 as proposed by your Government. I have no objection to your reserving to yourself in the Act power to raise the line by executive action, with the consent of her Majesty's Government, in case experience should hereafter show that it has been drawn unnecessarily low.

5. You are aware that in July, 1877, the House of Commons passed a Resolution to the effect that "the duties now levied upon cotton manufactures imported into India, *being protective in their nature*, are contrary to sound commercial policy"; and that in reply to a question in the House of Commons on the 27th July last, I said that the above-mentioned Resolution dealt "with duties which are protective in their nature"; and I proceeded "I have already stated to the House that, in my opinion, the Executive Government ought not to sanction steps which would reverse that decision without giving an opportunity for discussion in this House." Again, in the Indian Budget debate on the 16th of August, 1894, I said that the House had resolved, "that it will not sanction a protective duty on cotton goods; therefore the position I have taken up is that the imposition of such a duty is a step which must not be taken, until the House has had some opportunity of discussing the question. . . . I have said all along, and I say now, that, if the manufacturers of India are prepared to submit to a countervailing duty which will destroy the element of protection, I do not see why the import duty should not be imposed. . . . If there be any necessity for increasing the taxation of India, I see no reason why this tax could not be fairly and justly imposed, and at the same time deprived of any protective character, so that it shall go into the Treasury of India, and not into the pockets of the manufacturers. Then no injustice would be done to the English manufacturer on the one hand or to the Indian consumer on the other." It will, therefore, be understood that Her Majesty's Government are precluded by the pledges above quoted from sanctioning the imposition of import duties on cotton goods, unless under such conditions as will ensure beyond question that the duties thus imposed will have no protective effect.

6. Subject to the two modifications stated in paragraph 4, I agree to your moving the Legislature to impose import and excise duties upon cotton manufactures in the way you propose.

THE TENTH NATIONAL CONGRESS.

THE PRINCIPAL RESOLUTIONS.

Resolution I. That this Congress while thanking Her Majesty's Government for the promise they have made to appoint a Select Committee of the Members of Parliament to enquire into the financial expenditure of India, regards the enquiry with so limited a scope as inadequate, and is of opinion that if the enquiry is to bear any practical fruit, it must include an enquiry into the ability of the Indian people to bear their existing financial burthens and the financial relations between India and the United Kingdom.

Resolution II. (*a*) That this Congress respectfully enters its empathatic protest against the injustice and impolicy of imposing excise duty on cottons, manufactured in British India as such excise is calculated to cripple seriously the infant mill industry of this country,

(*b*) That this Congress puts on record its firm conviction that in proposing this excise the interests of India have been sacrificed to those of Lancashire, and it strongly deprecates any such surrender of Indian interest by the Secretary of State.

(*c*) That in case the Excise Bill becomes law, this Congress

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earnestly prays that the Government of India will, without delay, seek the sanction of the Secretary of State to exercise the powers which the Bill confers on Government to exempt all cottons from 20s to 24s from the operation of the Act.

(*d*) That the President be authorised to telegraph the above Resolution to the Government of India, and to the Secretary of State.

Resolution III. That this Congress desires to express the profound alarm which has been created by the action of the Government in interfering with the existing Permanent Settlement in Bengal and Behar (in the matter of survey and other cesses) and with the terms of sunnuds of permanently settled estates in Madras; and deeming such interference with solemn pledges a national calamity, hereby pledges itself to oppose in all possible legitimate ways and all such reactionary attacks on Permanent Settlements and their holders, and resolves to petition Parliament in that behalf.

That this Congress regrets extremely that the Government of India have not only failed to carry out the pledges (given by the Secretary of State in his Despatches of 1862 and 1865) for Permanent Settlement in the provinces in which it does not exist, but have also failed to give effect to the policy of granting modified fixity of tenure and immunity from enhancement laid down in 1882 and 1884 by the Government of India and approved by the Secretary of State; and this Congress hereby entreats the Government of India to grant a modified fixity of tenure and immunity from enhancement of land tax for a sufficient long period of not less than sixty years so as to secure to landholders the full benefits of our own improvements.

Resolution VI. That this Congress expresses its deep sense of disappointment at the despatch of the Secretary of State supporting the views of the Government of India on the question of Simultaneous Examinations, and this Congress hereby places on record its respectful but firm protest against the despatch as, among other things, introducing a new principle inconsistent with the Charter Act of 1833 and the Proclamation of the Queen of 1st November of 1858 (the solemn pledges contained in which the Secretary of State and the Government of India now seek to repudiate) by creating a disability, founded upon race, for the despatch lays down that a minimum of European officials in the Covenanted Service is indispensable.

That in the opinion of this Congress the creation of the Provincial Service is no satisfactory or permanent solution of the problem, as this service, constituted as it is at present, falls short of the legitimate aspirations of the people, and that the interests of the subordinate service will not suffer by the concession of Simultaneous Examinations.

That no attempt has been made to make out a case against the holding of Simultaneous Examinations for the recruitment of the Engineering, Forest, Telegraph, and the higher Police Service Examinations, and the Congress regrets to notice that the despatches of the Secretary of State, the Government of India and the various Local Governments are absolutely silent with regard to this aspect of the Resolution of the House of Commons.

That this Congress respectfully urges on Her Majesty's Government that the resolution of the House of Commons of 2nd June 1893 on the question of Simultaneous Examinations should be speedily carried out as an act of justice to the Indian people.

Resolution VII. That the Congress views with great dissatisfaction the system of recruiting the higher Judicial Service of the country, and is of opinion that provision should be made for proper judicial training being given to persons who are appointed to the place of District and Sessions Judges, and that the higher Judicial Service in Bengal, the N.-W. P. and Oudh, Bombay and Madras, and the Judicial Service generally in other parts of the country should be more largely recruited from the legal profession than is now the case.

Resolution VIII (*a*) That this Congress is of opinion that the present constitution of the Higher Civil Medical Service is anomalous indefensible in principle and injurious in its working and unnecessarily costly, that the time has arrived when, in the interests of public medical education and the advancement of medical service and of scientific work in the country, as also in the cause of economic administration, the Civil Medical Service of India should be reconstructed on the basis of such service in other civilised countries wholly detached from, and independent of Military Service.

(*b*) That the very satisfactory position and prospects of members of the Subordinate Civil Medical Service (Assistant Surgeons and Civil Hospital Assistants) compared with members of similar standing in other departments of the Public Service require thorough investigation and redress, and pray that Government will grant for the purpose an open enquiry by a mixed commission of official and non-official members.

(*c*) That whilst this Congress views with satisfaction the desire of the Imperial Government to reorganise the Chemical Analyser's Department with a view to its administration as an independent scientific department, it earnestly hopes that Government will not fail to recognise the responsible and meritorious work of Assistant or, as they in reality are, Government Chemical Analysers, and place them on a footing of specialists.

Resolution X. (*a*) That, in the opinion of the Congress, the time has now arrived when the system of trial by jury may be safely extended, in cases triable by Sessions Courts, to many parts of the country where it is not at present in force.

(*b*) That, in the opinion of the Congress the innovation made in 1872 in the system of trial by jury, depriving the verdicts of juries of all finality has proved injurious to the country, and that the powers then, for the first time, vested in Sessions Judges and High courts, of setting aside verdicts of acquittal, should be at once withdrawn.

(*c*) That, in the opinion of this Congress, it is extremely desirable that the power at present vested in Government to appeal against acquittals by Sessions Courts be taken away.

Resolution XI. That this Congress having till now appealed, though in vain, for many successive years to the Government of India, and also to the Secretary of State to remove one of the gravest defects in the system of administration, one fraught with incalculable oppression to all classes of people throughout the country, and having noted with satisfaction the admission of the evil by two former Secretaries of State (Lord Kimberley and Lord Cross), and being of opinion that reform is thoroughly practicable as was shown by Messrs. R. C. Dutt, M. M. Ghose, and P. Mehta, entreats the Government of India to direct the immediate appointment in each province of a Committee (one-half at least of whose members shall be non-official natives of India qualified, by education and experience, in the workings of various Courts, to deal with the question) to prepare each a scheme for the complete separation of all judicial and executive functions in their own province with as little additional cost to the State as may be practicable, and the submission of such schemes with the opinions of the several Governments to itself at an early date.

Resolution XV. That this Congress is emphatically of opinion that it is inexpedient in the present state of education in the country that Government grants for higher education should in any way be withdrawn, and concurring with the previous Congresses affirms in the most emphatic manner the importance of increasing public expenditure on all branches of education and the expediency of establishing Technical Schools and Colleges.

Resolution XVII. That this Congress is of opinion that the amendments and additions proposed to be introduced in section 15 of the police Act V of 1861 are highly objectionable as the powers proposed to be conferred on District Magistrates with respect to the levy of the costs of punitive police and of granting compensation of a most arbitrary, dangerous, and unprecedented character, and hereby empowers the President to convey this expression of opinion to the Government of India.

Resolution XVIII. That this Congress records its deep felt gratitude to the Government of India for its circular Resolution No 22F, published in the Supplement to the *Gazette of India*, dated 20th October 1894, and its high appreciation of the generous principle which it enunciates of subordinating fiscal interests to the needs and agricultural interests of the ryot population in the management of forests.

And would further represent that in forests falling under classes 3 and 4 of the said Resolutions, fuel, grazing concessions, fodder, small timber for building houses and making agricultural implements, edible forest products, etc., may be granted free of charge in all cases, under such restrictions as to quantity, etc., as the Government may deem proper, and that wherever hardship may be felt under present conditions the policy of the said Resolution may be carried out with reference to existing Forest areas and the existing Reserve Boundaries so adjusted as to leave a sufficiently large margin to facilitate the enjoyment by the agricultural population of their communal rights without molestation and annoyance by the minor subordinates of the Department.

Resolution XIV. That this Congress being of opinion that the Government of India Notification of 25th June 1891, in the Foreign Department, gagging the Press in territories under British administration in Native States is retrograde, arbitrary, and mischievous in its nature, and opposed to sound statesmanship and to the liberty of the people most respectfully enters its emphatic protest against the same and entreats its cancellation without delay.

Resolution. XX. That this Congress views with apprehension the arbitrary policy of the Government with regard to the imposition of water-cess, introducing as it does a disturbing element in taxation, and suggests that the imposition of the said cess be regulated by certain defined principles affording security to the rights of landowners and of persons investing money on land.

Resolution XXVI. That this Congress is of opinion that the time has come when the constitution of the Congress should be settled, and rules and regulations laid down as to the number of delegates, their qualifications, the localities for assemblage, and the like, and in this view the Congress requests the Standing Congress Committee to draw up draft rules and circulate them among the different Standing Congress Committees for their report; these reports, together with the draft rules and the report thereon, be laid before the next Congress for its consideration.

THE HISTORY OF A SCAR.

ON the back of my right hand—just about the middle of it—there is a small scar, half as big as a threepenny piece, perhaps. You would never notice it unless I showed it to you, and even then you would have to look sharp to see it. But it's there, all the same, and will be untill the hand is returned to dust. It dates back forty years, that scar does. Going home from school one day another boy and I quarrelled and fought. Strange to say, it wasn't about a girl either. Anyway, he drew his jackknife and stabbed me in the back of the right hand. The wound I remember, was slow to heal. It was sore and inflamed for months, and hardly a day but something hit it, or I knocked it against something, and so made it worse. My whole available body appeared to be concentrated in that sore. You know how such things are. They are like boils, and if there is any comfortable spot to have a boil there are loads of money waiting for the fellow who discovers it.

LATELY we have received two letters, both containing an indentical expression, namely, this: "*Everything seemed a trouble to me.*" Now, none of us are so tough as to be proof against trouble, but when *everything* is a trouble to a man the very heart inside of him must be tender and touchy. And, Mercy knows, it is so often enough. Grief will do it, worry will do it, and illness too.

ONE of these letters, or at least the writer of it, goes on to say:—"It was in March, 1880, that I felt tired and languid, and without my usual energy. Before that I had always been strong and active. Now I was low-spirited and melancholy; everything seemed a trouble to me. At first I had a bad taste in the mouth, a poor appetite, and all I ate gave me great pain in the chest and sides. Even fish and poultry gave me as much distress as more solid food. I was constantly spitting up a sour, acid fluid which caused a miserable feeling in my throat and mouth.

"After I had been for some time in this condition I was attacked with gout in my hands and feet, which confined me to the house now and again for a week or two at a time. The parts became inflamed and swollen, and gave me excruciating agony. I could not bear anything to touch them. For four years I was subject to these attacks. The doctor who attended me was able to ease me temporarily, but I was soon as bad as ever.

"IN the middle of April, 1888, I read that cases like mine had been cured by Mother Seigel's Curative Syrup, and I thought I would try it. I hadn't taken more than half a bottle when I felt relieved. This encouraged me to keep on with the Syrup, and in a comparatively short time all symptoms of the disease left me. Since then I have enjoyed excellent health, and whenever I feel a twinge of my old enemy a dose or two of 'Mother Seigel' soon sets me right. Yours truly, (Signed) M. LEAHY, 49, Grosvenor Terrace, Grosvenor Park, Camberwell, London, September 22nd 1892"

So much for the facts as Mr Leahy felt them What was science to offer in explanation of them? This Gout, rheumatism, and biliousness are three complaints arising indirectly from an overworked liver or, more properly, from indigestion and dyspepsia. The poisons so engendered may lie hidden and unfelt for a long time, and then be suddenly rendered active by mental worry, exposure, over eating, wrong eating, or any of a dozen other causes. The kidneys fail (following the stomach and liver), the acid poison remains in the blood and sets up inflammation in the joints, and the retained fluids produce dropsy. All sorts of disturbances are apt to go with this condition of things, every one less a disease in itself than a symptom of the *one cause*—indigestion and dyspepsia. The heart and lungs are often attacked in sympathy. Cure the torpid digestion, and an all-round improvement at once succeeds. To do this is in the power of Mother Seigel's Curative Syrup—as perhaps, in the power of nothing else.

It was most unfortunate that this gentleman suffered for eight years; and no wonder, meanwhile, that his mind was sensitive as his body to every approach. Knowing what he *now* knows he feels safe. *There is no darkness but ignorance*, and the German Nurse shows "The Way Out."

J. M. P.

London, October, 1892.

Municipal Elections to be held on 16th March 1895.

Notice is given that applications for correction of the published list of votes under Section 21 of the Calcutta municipal Consolidation Act, 1888, will be received in the Municipal Office up to 5 P. M. on the 17th January 1895, after which date no applications or objections will be received.

Applications will be received up to the same date from all persons qualified under clauses (*a*) or (*e*) of Section 8 of the above Act, who are desirous of having their names added to the list of voters.

Applicants for registration as voters under clauses (*a*), (*b*), (*c*) and (*d*) of Section 8 should submit with their applications their receipted rate-bills for the 3rd quarter 1894-95 and licenses for professions, trades, or callings for the year 1894 95.

Applicants under clause (*c*) of Section 8 should submit duly paid rate-bills and licenses for the year 1893-94.

Applicants who are entitled to vote in more than one ward, should make separate applications in respect of each ward.

W. R. MACDONALD,
Secretary to the Corporation.

2nd January 1895.

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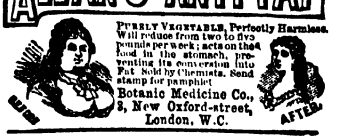

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(PRINCE & PEASANT)

WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

VOL. XIV. CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, JANUARY 19, 1895. WHOLE NO. 658.

OLD BALLAD POETRY.

A SONG OF THE DUKE OF BUCKINGHAM.

1.

The noble peer, while he lived here,
The Duke of Buckingham,
Who flourished in King Edward's reign,
The fourth king of that name.

2.

Which did in service keep a man
Of mean and low degree,
Which of a child he had brought up
From base to dignity.

3.

He gave him lands and living good,
Of which he was no heir,
And married him to a gallant dame,
As rich as she was fair.

4.

But, out alas! it came to pass,
And so the strife began,
The master he constramèd was
To seek succour at the man.

5.

King Richard the third he got the sword,
Foreswore himself t' be King,
Murdered two princes in their beds,
The which much strife did bring.

6.

This noble Duke when he saw that,
That vile and wicked deed,
Against this tyrant raised an host
Of armèd men with speed.

7.

But when the king that he heard tell,
A mighty host he sent,
Against the Duke of Buckingham,
His purpose to prevent.

8.

When the Duke's soldiers they heard tell,
Fear pierced their hearts each one,
That all his soldiers fled by night,
And left the Duke alone.

9.

Then in extreme need he took his steed,
And posted night and day,
And to his own man Banister
These words to him did say:

10.

"O Banister, sweet Banister,
Pity my cause," quoth he,
"And hide me from my cruel foes,
Which thus pursueth me."

11.

"O you are welcome, my master dear,
You are heartily welcome here,
And, like a friend, I will you keep,
Although it cost me dear."

12.

His velvet suit then he put off,
His chain of gold likewise,
An old leathern coat he put upon,
To blind the people's eyes;

13.

Saying, "Banister, O Banister,
O Banister, be true."
"Christ's curse then light on me and mine
If I ever be false to you."

14.

An old felt hat he put on his head
Old leathern slops also,
A hedging bill upon his neck,
And so to the wood did go.

15.

This worthy Duke went to the wo
As did not him beseem,
And so in sorrow spent his day
As he some drudge had been.

16.

A proclamation there was made,
Whosoever then could bring
News of the Duke of Buckingham
Unto Richard the King,

17.

A thousand pounds should be his fee,
Of gold and money bright,
And be preferrèd by his Grace,
And made a worthy knight.

18.

When Banister that he heard tell,
He to the court did hie,
And he betray'd his master dear
For lucre of that fee.

19.

King Richard then he sent in haste
A host with arrows good,
All for to take this worthy Duke
A-wandering in the wood.

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20.

And when the Duke that he saw that,
He wrung his hands with woe;
"O false Banister," quoth he,
"Why hast thou served me so?"

21.

"O Banister, false Banister,
Woe worth thy feignéd heart!
Thou hast betray'd thy master dear,
And play'd a traitor's part."

22.

This noble Duke was to London brought,
In his great fear and dread,
And straight in prison he was cast,
And judged to lose his head.

23.

Then Banister went to the court,
Hoping those gifts to have,
And straight in prison he was cast,
And hard his life to save.

24.

No friend he found in his distress,
Nor yet no friend at need,
But every man reviléd him
For his most hateful deed.

25.

His eldest son stark mad did run,
His daughter drownéd was
Within a shallow running stream,
Which did all danger pass.

26.

According to his own desire
God's curse did on him fall
That all his wealth consuméd quite,
And so was wasted all.

27.

Young Banister liv'd long in shame,
But at the length did die;
And so our Lord he show'd his wrath
For his father's villainy.

28.

Good Lord preserve our noble King,
And send him long proceed,
And God send every distress'd man
A better friend at need.

WEEKLYANA.

THE Sinking Mountain—Dshebel Naibo—an isolated Algerian peak, has sunk to 800 feet and is sinking still. At the time of the Cæsars, it measured 1,400 feet. Close to the mountain is a large clear lake called Fezzara where once stood a large city.

***

BUT for the white foxes that make special game of the rodents, the mountains of Sweden, Norway and Lapland would be denuded of their vegetation by the Norway rats.

***

A GERMAN statistician has found that, in Europe, Greece stands in the first rank in the number of centenarians. This long age he attributes to the climate of that country.

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A RUSSIAN physician is engaged in ascertaining the calculating power of animals. He has found that the crow can count up to ten, and is superior in that line to certain Polynesian tribes who cannot go beyond five or six. Here is a good field for Mr. Frusher Howard. He would do better there than preach his "Art of Reckoning" in the *maidan* opposite the corner of Government Place, Calcutta.

***

THERE was, on the 11th, a heavy landslip in Kulu, due to the snow on the hills behind the Guma Salt Mines. A house was crushed, three persons killed, five hurt and two thousand sheep overwhelmed in a fold.

***

THE Punjab Trades Association having petitioned Government against the levy of octroi by the Simla Municipality on articles weighted with the new customs duties, has been informed in reply that the whole question of octroi in its relation to customs import duties is under consideration.

***

WE have in the port an Italian man-of-war Cristoforo Colombo, commander Captain F. Gavotto. She arrived in the Hooghly on Sunday. Among the officers is the Duke of Savoy, or Duc d'Abruzzi, a nephew of the King of Italy.

***

THE two men who were tried at Pegu for the murder of Mr. Tucker, the District Superintendent of Police, have been convicted. One is ordered to be hanged and the other imprisoned for life. An appeal has been preferred.

***

THE District Judge of Alipore, Mr. Beighton, has set aside the conviction of Atul Behary Shome by the Sealda Deputy Magistrate, Baboo Shyamadhub Roy. Shome, an ex-student of the Campbell Medical School, was tried for having obtained an admission into the school on a false certificate and sentenced to two months' rigorous imprisonment. The High Courts holding different views, and the Bengal High Court being of opinion that such acts did not constitute any offence under the Indian Penal Code, the Alipore District Judge felt himself bound to quash the conviction and set aside the sentence.

***

ON Monday, the *Englishman* reported:—

"'Life' for a brinjal.—At the Alipur Sessions Court on Saturday a Bengali, with many previous convictions, was sentenced to transportation for life for the theft of a single brinjal."

Next day an explanation from the sentencing Judge appeared in the same paper. Mr. J. Knox Wight, the Additional Sessions Judge wrote:—

"In the issue of the *Englishman* of the 14th, a paragraph appeared to the effect that a man had been transported for life on account of the theft of one brinjal. The real facts are these: The accused Kedar Kola had a number of previous convictions for theft and house-breaking by night against him. He had spent 12¼ years out of 16 in jail. In consequence of the frequency of thefts in his village, the villagers agreed to set up and watch. One night he was caught stealing brinjals. He was arrested as he was leaving the garden with a basketful of brinjals. He was taken to a homestead, but managed to escape. The villagers saw nothing of him again until they met him some weeks later in a Criminal Court, where he was being tried for another offence, viz., that of housebreaking by night and cattle lifting. The man was committed to the Sessions under both charges, that of theft of brinjal on one date, and of house-breaking by night and cattle theft on another date. In the former case the jury unanimously found him guilty. Sentence was deferred. In the second case the jury (a different one) also unanimously found him guilty. As it was clear that there was no probability of curing the man, and that he was a hardened offender, he was ordered to be transported for life."

We do not understand Mr. Wight when he says that the wight who received from him the last sentence of transportation for life, "had spent 12¼ years out of 16 in jail." Was it that Kola was altogether sentenced to 16 years for repeated offences and was confined only for 12¼, the balance of the term being remitted? Or that he is 16 years of age, one-fourth of which only he spent in innocence? We shall not suppose that Kola was convicted first when he was not yet four years of age, for the law exempts a child under seven from punishment. Taking it then that his conviction began legally, that is when he had obtained sufficient maturity of understanding to judge of the nature and consequence of his conduct, the Judge must have been sick of him for his continued crimes, and was determined that he should be incapacitated from committing any more offence. Not permitted to maim the limbs, and unable to send the culprit away from the world, he orders him out of the 24-Pergunnas, or to lose his freedom for another 20 years.

NOTES & LEADERETTES,
OUR OWN NEWS,
&
THE WEEK'S TELEGRAMS IN BRIEF, WITH OCCASIONAL COMMENTS.

FRANCE has just passed through a crisis. The Cabinet resigned after being defeated in the Chamber of Deputies in a debate initiated by the Socialist members in connection with the State guarantees given for railways. The Chamber was asked to express its dissatisfaction with the Government for leaving the question to the Council of State, which decided that the interest was to be guaranteed in perpetuity and the motion was carried against the Ministerial protests by a majority of twenty-two votes. That resignation was followed by that of the President of the Republic himself. A letter from M Casimir Perier was read in the Chamber on the 16th explaining his reasons for the step taken. He states that it is due to the last campaign of calumny and insult directed against the Army, the Magistracy and other heads of the State. He cannot see the best servants of the country insulted, nor continue to bear the onus of office without power. A scene of great excitement thereupon ensued in the Chamber. Many cries were raised of "Vive le Roi!"

Owing to the state of affairs in Paris, the Duc d' Orleans left Stowe House for Dover. A manifesto to the French nation issued by him on the 17th states that recent events prove that the Republic is merely provisional, and that the hour is near when the country will wish to revert to that form of Government which has been the glory of the past, and will prove a guarantee of the future. The Duc D'Orleans declares that when the country calls he will be ready to fulfil the task, and will give his life-blood for France, which his ancestors made great and respected.

The same day the National Assembly elected M Felix Faure, Minister of Marine, President of the Republic. He is of the Moderate Party. The Socialists had protested against the election. The moderate section of the French press generally expresses satisfaction while the Radicals are furious.

THE Czar is all Peace—armed Peace. In a rescript to the Minister of War, the Emperor felicitates him on the progress made by the Russian army, which is the surest pledge of the maintenance of peace. It concludes by affirming the Czar's love of peace.

THE Japanese troops are steadily advancing against Chinchow, and the Chinese are slowly retiring to the Great Wall, where the final stand against the invaders is expected to be made. The cold is very severe, and deep snow delays operations. The Chinese who have arrived from Manchuria bring ghastly reports from that province. In several places they say the entire population has perished, and groups of frozen corpses are seen everywhere. The country is completely denuded of its provisions, hindering the movements of troops on both sides Further telegrams giving particulars of the capture of Haiphong by the Japanese, state that at least two hundred Chinese soldiers were killed, while the number wounded is unknown. The loss on the Japanese side is not stated. Admiral Fremantle's fleet has gone to Japan, with the object, it is presumed, of following the Japanese movements. H. M. Cruiser Pylades, which was proceeding to Australia, has been ordered to join the China squadron.

ISMAIL Pasha is seriously ill with internal cancer. The doctors say that death is likely to occur at any moment, and advise his immediate removal to Egypt.

THE French have bombarded a Hova fort near Tamatave, the garrison retiring with heavy loss. A French cruiser has started for the west coast of Madagascar to occupy, it is stated, Majunga.

THE *Times* publishes a telegram from Rome stating that the undisguised efforts of the French to instigate the Emperor of Abyssinia against the Italians is causing irritation at Rome, and obliging the Italians to despatch reinforcements to Massowah.

MAJOR Baratieri surprised the thousand Abyssinians under the command of Mangascia, at Contit, and after a severe fight the latter retired with heavy loss, while that on the Italian side was slight.

THE King of Ashantee has declined to entertain any suggestion from the Governor of the Gold Coast Colony for the appointment of a British Resident at Coomassie, and has assumed such a defiant attitude that the necessity of another expedition is considered probable. Major Ussmann has started for the Cameroons.

HEAVY snowstorms and severe gales have occurred throughout Great Britain causing serious damage and loss of life. Many shipping disasters have taken place. The storms have been followed by a rapid thaw and floods are apprehended. Similar boisterous weather has been experienced on the Continent, where much destruction is also reported.

THERE was an unusual stir in the fashionable quarter, Rue Monceau, Paris, caused by the bursting of a bomb at midnight on Jan. 13. The Concierge of the house which the perpetrator of the outrage had selected to wreck, saw a bomb on a windowsill, and immediately threw it into the middle of the street, when a tremendous explosion followed, doing much damage to the houses in the neighbourhood. Nobody was injured. An English biscuit box filled with bullets was used as the bomb.

THE death is announced of Professor Seeley.

IT is announced that Lord Brassey has been appointed Governor Victoria in succession to Earl Hopetoun.

IN a speech made at Galsgow, Lord Brassey he said that it was the duty of the Government of India to prepare the Natives for taking a larger share in the higher administration of their country, and that the removal of Russian bugbear should result in a reduction o military expenditure in India.

THE *Times'* special article on Indian Affairs, reviewing articles published by the Indian newspapers on the question of the duties on cotton goods, says that it is a struggle which is inevitable between a powerful and justly influential interest in England and what the Indian peoples consider their rights

MR. Balfour, addressing a meeting at Manchesther, said that he believed that the Minister honestly tried to safeguard the principle of free trade with regard to the imposition of the cotton duties and to execute an ungrateful task in the least injurious manner possible. Mr. Balfour also declared that a reform of the currency was the only real solution of the exchange difficulty.

THE condition of Lord Randolph Churchill has assumed the gravest nature, accompanied by a failing of the heart's action.

THE Newmarket Magistrates have, on the application of representatives of the Anti-Gambling League, granted a summons against the Stewards of the Jockey Club. The Stewards are the Earl of March, the Earl of Ellesmere, and Lord Rendlesham.

SINCE the arrival of the Viceroy, he has been assailed with applications from persons, good, bad and indifferent, for private interviews. Many have been the interviews—both private and public. The last official reception was that of the Maharaja of Independent Tepperah on Tuesday.

LADY Elgin paid a visit to the Dufferin Hospital. She was accompanied by Dr. Franklin, Surgeon to the Viceroy, and conducted by the Lady Superintendent round the several wards.

THE Maharaja of Kapurthala left Calcutta for Rangoon where he

arrived on the 12th. After a stay there, of four days, with the Financial Commissioner, he is on his way back to Calcutta.

THE winter this year is so mild that it can hardly be called cold season, and we had had seasonal weather only for a week. This abnormality is the cause of sickness prevailing in the capital. There were during the week ending in 5th January, 346 deaths against 318 and 281 in the two preceeding weeks, or 35 more than in the corresponding week of last year. In the three weeks, deaths from cholera numbered 38. Small-pox carried away as many in two weeks. The general death rate of the week was 38·7 per mille per annum against 29·7, the mean of the last five years. On account of the prevalence of small-pox, the Health Officer, as a preventive measure, recommends the heads of families "to see, without delay, to the vaccination of every member of the household who has not previously had the disease." "All residents on the infected premises who are above seven years of age and who have been vaccinated in infancy and all children below that age who do not bear good vaccination marks should be vaccinated." "This," Dr. Simpson thinks, if done properly and in time, will undoubtedly protect from the disease." At the municipal vaccination stations, vaccination or re-vaccination is performed free of charge. The operation may be done at private houses on payment of a fee of 4 annas for each vaccination and charges for the lymph child not exceeding Rs. 2, or, for the calf an additional 4 annas per head. Information of every small-pox case is to be given him, that measures may be taken to prevent, as far as possible, the spread of the disease.

THE two last appointments to the Bengal Legislative Council are out of the ordinary course. For the first time, a Divisional Commissioner has been gazetted a member. But Collectors being eligible, Commissioners need not cause any surprise. Mr. Romesh Chunder Dutt is the first Bengali who has risen to be a Commissioner of a Division. He is besides an author. Khan Bahadur Mahomed Yusoof had at first declined the honour. Awaiting a membership of the other Council or a Judgeship of the High Court, he can not have any zest for the appointment thrust upon him and which he had already held.

THE Gangasagore Mela passed off well. Twenty to twenty-five thousand persons had congregated. The arrangements were so far satisfactory that there were only three deaths from cholera and one from another cause, and only four criminal cases, three of which were disposed off summarily. A death by drowning is also reported. Some three or four Nepalese lived in a jungle close by. A channel or creek divided their home from the mela land. Whenever they had occasion to come to the mela, they swam over to it. In crossing the stream thus during the tide, one of these who had about him three hundred rupees, was carried away by the current and found no more.

Three temporary jetties were erected for easy landing. Enclosed places were set apart as latrines. But the convenience which chiefly accounted for immunity from disease and death was the storage of river water for drinking. There were present the District Engineer, the District Superintendent of Police, and Mr. Temple, the Joint-Magistrate of Alipore. The Sub-divisional Officer of Diamond Harbour also had pitched his camp there.

THE Inspector-General of Registration, Bengal, has addressed the following printed circular to all District Registrars. It contains no mark of authenticity except perhaps the frank on the cover, and he thinks that his name in leaden types is enough to make the world grow pale :—

'SIR,—I have the honour to point out that the existing orders contained in para. 6 of the Registration Manual that no profit is to be made by Rural Sub-Registrars out of their establishment allowance, have not been carried out uniformly. In some cases the salary of a peon and other unauthorized charges have wrongly been debited to the establishment allowance.

2. Henceforth, a correct account of the same received for establishment allowance during the official year should be kept month by month by each Rural Registrar, the amount received and the pay disbursed to the different members of the establishment being entered in full in the cash-book. At the end of the year if any savings are left, they should be credited to Government. The Special Sub-Registrar when inspecting rural offices should scrutinize the account, and note the result in his inspection memorandum.

3. Extra Moburrirs should not be entertained by Rural Sub-Registrars unless arrears accumulate, though the required amount of work is exacted from the permanent establishment."

The authority referred to runs thus :—

"No profit is allowed to be made out of this allowance. At rural offices a clerk should not receive less than Rs. 15, or a mohurrir less than Rs. 8 a month."

The lot of the rural sub-registrars is already hard. It is now to be made harder. It is a condition of the appointment of a rural sub-registrar that he must be a pensioner or a man of means ; have a masonry building of his own to house the office ; out of his own pocket pay the establishment ; excepting the registers, index books, printed forms and the machine-made medium paper required for copies under sections 64 and 65 of the Act, must pay for the registration ink and other stationery. Furniture and other requisites he must find. The establishment again must be sufficient to allow no arrears or he will lose the appointment. He is not permitted to accept gratuities under any circumstances or fees of any description not prescribed, and is personally responsible for any fee or gratuity taken by his subordinates. He must not hold any other appointment or engage in any trade or profession or do any other work except as an Honorary Member of Benches of Magistrates, District, Local and Municipal Boards. He is responsible for the safe custody of Government money from the time that he receives it until it is deposited in the treasury. While appearing as a witness before a judicial officer, the rural sub-registrar is not permitted to draw his travelling as a Government servant. He is only entitled to the allowance of a professional witness. For thus slaving to the great British Government in India, the rural Registrar Baboo is remunerated by poor commissions and allowances on graduated scales. Thus :—

For the Commission—

When the number of registrations does not exceed 60 in a month			...	...	Rs. 40
Above 60 and not exceeding		80	...	...	„ 50
„ 80	Do.	125	...	...	„ 70
„ 125	Do.	170	...	...	„ 85
„ 170	Do.	200	...	...	„ 95
„ 200	Do.	250	...	...	„ 105
„ 250	Do.	300	...	...	„ 110
„ 300	Do.	350	...	...	„ 115
„ 350	Do.	400	...	...	„ 125
„ 400	Do.	450	...	...	„ 135
„ 450	Do.	500	...	...	„ 145
„ 500	Do.	...	...	...	„ 150

and no more.

For the Allowance—

When the number of documents does not exceed ...	...	100	... Rs.	10
Above 100, not exceeding		400	... „	5 per 50 docts.
„ 400	Do.	500	... „	11 per 100 docts
„ 500	...	...	... „	12 per 500 docts.

with full allowance for fractions of 50 or 100 completed during the month.

The Registration is a developing Department. Notwithstanding, the rural sub-registrars must drag a miserable existence. With opportunities and temptation for corruption, they are circulared to turn out good honest work on paltry puttances. The original idea that pensioned officers of Government who could afford to do the work willingly and satisfactorily on nominal remuneration no longer holds. It was a visionary idea. Its impracticability was soon found out. There are now more offices than pensioners, and the appointment is now a patronage of the Bengal Secretariat. With the expansion of offices, has developed corruption which has invaded quarters where least looked for. While therefore better remuneration might be expected, is issued an order to make the little allowance less. We are at the same time not sure that the new order passed by the Inspector-General is according to the rule quoted. It prohibits any profit. Government equally with the rural sub-registrar is excluded from sharing in it. The intention of the rule evidently is that the allowance must be expended in maintaining a sufficient and qualified staff and well-paid establishment. It is for the first time we learn that peons do not form part of an office establishment.

But why this anxiety for economy by furthering starving the famishing? There is no need for it, if the receipts of the Department are considered. The offices have steadily increased from 301 in 1887-88 to 346 in 1892-93, at the rate of 5 in the first three years and more than 10 in the second three. The surplus receipts over expenditure have also gone up. In the same six years, they were respectively, Rs. 4,42,716 ; 4,94,206 ; 5,71,367 ; 6,11,122 ; 6,49,532, and 7,08,770.

REIS & RAYYET.

Saturday, January 19, 1895

A NEW TREATY WITH NEPAL.

"Of one thing you may be sure, the British Government does not forget those who have deserved well at its hands." Even this is what Lord Lansdowne uttered, while speaking at Quetta in October 1889. As a declaration of British policy, nothing could be nobler. The history of that policy in India affords numerous examples of claims to Britain's gratitude freely admitted in words and expressed in deeds. Unfortunately, however, for the fair fame of England in the East, with the extension of Empire and the non-existence of any power within India itself capable of coping with it, the traditions of British rule have come to be fairly forgotten. Individual administrators may now and then seek to frame their policy according to those traditions, but the jingo spirit has been too much abroad to permit a continuous maintenance of righteous relations. Writing to the Secret Committee of the East India Company on the 30th of May 1858, Lord Canning said,—"I had the satisfaction of offering to the Maharajah Jung Bahadur, in full Durbar, my cordial thanks for the aid which the Government of India had received from him and from his brave soldiers, and my assurance that the friendly conduct of his Government and the exertions and successes of his troops, would be held in grateful recollection, not less in England than in India." Those who still remember the dark days of the Sepoy Mutiny can attest to the sense of relief that was universally felt by the friends of British rule when news came, after a period of prolonged and intolerable suspense, that Maharajah Jung Bahadur had declared himself for the British and that he had actually set out with a strong force of Goorkhas for meeting the insurgents. The circumstances under which that expeditionary contingent, 16,000 strong, in two divisions, left Nepal, however well-known in that country, are little known in India. The historian of the Sepoy War has not referred to them. The story, however, deserves to be told. The King, under the Nepal constitution, has little or no power. In 1857, as now, the Prime Minister was all in all. At first, Lord Canning was unwilling to call down into the plains a strong Goorkha force which, summoned for aiding the British Power, might side with the Mutineers. The spectacle was seen of sepoys that were high caste Brâhmans shedding their blood for setting up a Mussulman sovereignty. The whole of Gangetic India was ablaze. The insurrection seemed to present some features of a national struggle. Every vestige of British sovereignty disappeared from large tracts of the country. The inoffensive milestones, so serviceable to the children themselves of the soil, were either defaced or pulled up, for in the eyes of the people they were evidences of English supremacy. The fears of Lord Canning, therefore, were legitimate. The Resident, Colonel Ramsay, however, knew Maharajah Jung Bahadur better. His voice at last prevailed. The Governor-General wrote to Maharaja Jung Bahadur for assistance which was freely offered. In Nepal there were then two parties. One was for taking advantage of the British distress. It was headed by Dhir Shumshere, the youngest of the brothers of Jung Bahadur, and the father of Bir Shumshere, the present Prime Minister. The other was headed by Jung Bahadur himself. His superior knowledge and statesmanship enabled him to see through the disaster that had overtaken the British and he at once decided to aid them in their hour of need. Whatever his political leanings, the military abilities of Dhir Shumshere pointed him out for the command of the expeditionary force. Accordingly, Maharajah Jung Bahadur placed that force under his lead. After the appointment, however, Dhir Shumshere was reported to have said that he would, on arrival at the scene of action, take his own course as circumstances would point out. Maharajah Jung Bahadur, on hearing it, immediately cancelled the appointment and gave it to Colonel Pahalman Sing, himself accompanying as the chief civil and, if need be, military Commissioner for directing the movements. The Commissariat was placed under his fifth brother, the late Maharajah Sir Ranadip Sing. How thoroughly the Goorkha contingent did its work has been told in the pages of history.

With Lord Canning's grateful acknowledgment before us, of that work, in terms that are at once binding upon both England and India and that may be said to be still ringing in the ears of England's friends and foes in Asia, the policy pursued of late towards Nepal by our Government seems to be simply strange. Unless the jingo doctrine of regarding words as uttered for only the purposes of the hour and, therefore, intended to be forgotten when necessary, be accepted, that policy would be perfectly inexplicable. At a time of profound peace, the Prime Minister of that country, who had always been a faithful ally of the British Government, was foully assassinated. The hands that fired

The Indian Association for the Cultivation of Science.

210, Bow-Bazar Street, Calcutta.

(Session 1894-95.)

Lecture by Babu Ram Chandra Datta, F.C.S., on Monday, the 21st January, at 4-15 P. M. *Subject:* Potassium, &c.

Lecture by Mr. B Chaudhuri, B. A., B. Sc., on Monday, the 21st Inst., at 5 30 P. M. *Subject:* Biology—Heredity and the theory of Evolution.

Lecture by Babu Ram Chandra Datta, F.C.S, on Tuesday, the 22nd Inst., at 4 15 P.M. *Subject:* Iodium and Ammonium

Lecture by Babu Rajendra Nath Chatterjee, M. A., on Wednesday, the 23rd Inst., at 6-30 P. M. *Subject:* Pneumatics. (continued)—Instruments depending upon the properties of Air.

Lecture by Babu Syamadas Mukherjee, M. A., on Thursday, the 24th Inst., at 4 P. M. *Subject.* Special forms of the equation of the second degree. (continued).

PRACTICAL CLASS in Chemistry under Babu Ram Chandra Datta, F.C.S., on Thursday, the 24th Inst., at 4-15 P. M *Subject:* Salts.—Lead.

Lecture by Mr. B. Chaudhuri, B. A., B. Sc., on Thursday, the 24th Inst., at 5-30 P. M. *Subject:* Histology—Epithelium.

Lecture by Dr. Mahendra Lal Sircar, on Friday, the 25th Inst., at 6 30 P. M. *Subject:* Propagation of Heat—Conduction. (concluded).

Lecture by Mr. B. Chaudhuri, B.A., B. Sc., on Saturday, the 26th Inst., at 4 P. M. *Subject:* Practical Biology—Frog (continued).

Lecture by Mr. B. Chaudhuri, B. A., B. Sc, this Saturday, the 26th Inst., at 5 P. M. *Subject:* General Biology—The principles of Biology.

Admission Fee, Rs. 4 for Physics, and Rs. 4 for Chemistry; Rs. 6 for both Physics and Chemistry; Rs. 4 for Physiology; Rs. 4 for General Biology; Rs. 6 for complete course of Physiology and Biology. The charge for a single lecture is 2 Annas.

MAHENDRA LAL SIRCAR, M.D.,

Honorary Secretary.

January 19, 1895.

the fatal shot were those of a beloved nephew. The time selected for the parricidal deed was while the venerable man was engaged in his evening devotions in the bosom of his family. According to the Constitution that Maharajah Sir Jung Bahadur had caused to be adopted as a solemn act of State, Bir Shumshere, as the son of the youngest of the seven brothers of whom Sir Jung was the eldest, could not expect to succeed to the Prime Ministership of Nepal till after the demise of all those that stood between him and that office. The misplaced confidence of Sir Ranadip Singh made the way clear for him. His inordinate ambition has been gratified. Having murdered the uncle who was more than a father to him, he seized the person of the infant Adhiraj and cunningly spread the report that General Ranbir Jung, the successor elect to the Primiership of Nepal, assisted by his brothers, had done that dastardly deed. With the aid of those troops who had only that morning been placed under him at the Prime Minister's orders, Bir Shumshere next sought the lives of General Ranbir Jung and his brothers. Some of them had, through the merest accident, heard of Sir Ranadip's murder, and thinking it unsafe for themselves to remain in their own palaces, hastened towards the Residency. General Ranbir Jung was the only one among them that went to the regiments under his command. Bir Shumshere had stationed his men along the road for shooting the General without challenge. By avoiding the main road he succeeded in saving his life. One of his faithful attendants, however, who had committed the indiscretion of riding his master's well-known horse, while proceeding in search of his master, was shot dead, having been mistaken for the General himself. To his infinite regret, General Ranbir, when he came to his own regiments and gave the word of command, found the soldiers unwilling to obey. Some of the officers explained the situation. They believed him to have murdered the Prime Minister. That they or their men did not shoot him dead at his first appearance, was entirely due to their unbounded devotion to him. If he wanted to save his life, he should immediately repair to the British Residency. He expostulated with them but found them inexorable. Reluctantly he went to the Residency whither his brothers had preceded him. He was the last of the refugees that entered that place. 19558.

The acting Resident of Nepal was Colonel Berkley. He was absent on a hunting expedition. The Residency Surgeon, Dr. Gimlette, was a man of courage. He did all that was needed for protecting the princes. Colonel Berkley returned the next day. His conduct towards the noble refugees was strange and inexplicable. Instead of showing them that attention which was doubly their due in view of the sudden distress and danger that had overwhelmed them, he sought to get rid of them as soon as possible. He allowed the Residency itself, without a word of remonstrance, to be surrounded by the blood-hounds of Bir Shumshere. Any other man would have known how to assert British dignity at that time. How an Englishman could act as Colonel Berkley acted towards men suddenly plunged into such distress, cannot but create surprise. The Nepalese have their own explanation of the matter. Ask any of the refugees at Calcutta or Benares, and he will tell you what everybody at Katmandu said. British prestige as represented by Colonel Berkley must have fallen too low when that officer felt himself unable to continue his protection to the refugees till at least the time by which the army and the citizens of the Nepalese capital could be expected to succeed in discovering the truth about the assassination of Sir Ranadip Sing. If allowed to remain, within less than a week, General Ranbir Jung and his brothers would have succeeded in avenging the murder of their uncle by a judicial and public execution of the usurper.

The rightful and honourable course open to Colonel Berkley was not adopted by him. He was a mute spectator of the foul assassination of England's faithful ally in Sir Ranadip Sing, and of the eldest son and grandson of Sir Jung Bahadur. He saw unmoved the act of usurpation which despoiled the sons of Sir Jung Bahadur of that power which was legitimately theirs under the Constitution of the kingdom. The traditions of the Nepal Residency were forgotten. The splendid services of Sir Jung Bahadur, acknowledged so handsomely by Lord Canning in the name of both England and India, were quietly ignored. The murderer of England's faithful ally was recommended to be recognized as the Prime Minister of Nepal. The sons of Sir Jung Bahadur became refugees in British territory, uncared for to this day by the British Government. The Foreign Office accepted the recommendation of the Resident. Lord Dufferin too yielded to the influence of Anglo-Indian bureaucracy. The princes and chiefs of India found what value was set by Lord Canning's successors on Lord Canning's grateful acknowledgments. British credit was lowered in the eyes of every one. It was no excuse for Lord Dufferin's non-intervention in the affairs of Nepal that the Burmese campaign followed by the annexation of Burma was enough for one Viceroyalty. Sir Ranadip Sing's blood cried for vengeance against those that had shed it. The services of Sir Jung Bahadur demanded interference on behalf of his sons. The Constitution of Nepal, accepted for about half a century, and flagrantly violated by a dastardly assassination, called for an ally's support. Amongst other articles, the treaty with Nepal, of 1801, provides "that the principals and officers of both Governments will cordially consider the friends and enemies of either State to be the friends and enemies of the other; and this consideration must ever remain permanent and in force, from generation to generation." By the murder of the Prime Minister of Nepal, Bir Shumshere had constituted himself an enemy to that state. The British Government, however, setting every solemn obligation to the winds, hastened to take the hand of a murderer and usurper, the hand still red with the blood it had shed. No time was allowed for its washing or drying. No consideration of interest could excuse such conduct. The pleas put forward by the semi-official organs, evidently under the inspiration of the Indian Foreign Office, were of the shallowest. Indeed, they involved an insincerity which produced consequences more injurious than silence, however undignified, would have done. Nepal has China for her Suzerain. What would the celestial

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Empire think, if the Viceroy of India were to remonstrate with one who had assassinated a faithful ally of England and stepped into the place in violation of the Constitution drawn up by another faithful ally of hers? The Indian Foreign Office had found out its mistake in respect of the treaties with Nepal China had not sanctioned them. The dread of China, therefore, prevailed. The Indian Government, unable to offend China, felt itself bound to shake hands with the murderer of Sir Ranadip Sing and Juggut Jung and Yudh Protap Jung, and despoiler of the sons of Maharaja Jung Bahadur.

It is unnecessary to combat such a plea. They who advanced it could not be supposed to be so simple as not to know that it was contemptible. A plea was wanted, and old Æsop has told us that when one is wanted, one is found. That it is not good is due to those eternal conditions which invest ingratitude, illiberality, and meanness. Having originally failed in its duty, our Government, through successive administrations, as if for accentuating its policy of ingratitude, has thought it fit to cultivate a closer intimacy with Bir Shumshere. Not content with recognising Bir Shumshere, it has honoured him with its complete confidence and gratified him by its cold neglect of General Ranbir Jung and his brothers. There can be no doubt that it is interest,—narrow, immediate, interest of the hour,—that has dictated this policy. The exclusiveness of Nepal is well-known. Maharaja Jung Bahadur resisted all attempts to show the condition of his military strength to British officers. He resolutely objected to the construction of even a good road from British India to Nepal. He cut short all negociations for obtaining from him a sanitarium in Nepal for British regiments requiring change of air. His legitimate successors, who looked and would always look upon the country as theirs and whose patriotism would stand the bribes of flattery, continued his policy. They would continue it at any cost, indeed, as long as they would be in power. A change of administration might improve our chances. A bloody revolution, effected through accident, offered itself. To seize it and make it subservient to "British interests," as that phrase has come to be now understood, was regarded as consistent with administrative wisdom. Both gratitude and treaty obligations were accordingly quietly ignored.

Sir Charles Elliott's, we may be sure, was no holiday tour to Nepal. The Indian press knows nothing of that mission. That it was regarded as highly important to British interests is, of course, proved by the fact that none less than a Governor was thought worthy of being entrusted with it. Sir Charles was well received by Bir Shumshere, with whom he was closetted for some hours. To Bir Shumshere himself, the visit of Sir Charles has been productive of immediate benefit. A large number, believed to be about 800, of rifles and a battery of cannon, have been presented to him by the British Government. The policy of subsidising the Ameer of Cabul has, it seems, been extended to Nepal. The object in view must, in the case of Nepal, be held to be the same. A friendly Nepal may keep out the Russians if ever they think of seeking a path to India through that country. In sober seriousness, if that be the object of the subsidy in arms to Bir Shumshere, has it not been a downright mistake? Bir Shumshere can never be as strong in Nepal as the administration that would have naturally succeeded Sir Ranadip Sing. The administrative and military talents of General Ranabir Jung, the ablest of the sons of Sir Jung Bahadur, would certainly have offered a more reliable guarantee than any measure of cunning which Bir Shumshere may, in consequence of his successful assassinations, be regarded to be possessed of. One trembling for his own safety can scarcely guarantee the safety of others.

DR. SAMBHU CHUNDER MOOKERJEE.

II.

To most men, wrote Sir William Taylor, author of *Philip Van Artavelde*, habits of obedience come more naturally than habits of command. It is this pliability in human nature which alone makes civilization possible. Some there are who, without the power of impressing their will on others, are incapable of discipline, and such men are grits in the wheels of human progress. Obedience is, therefore, the first lesson which a child should learn. It must not be carried too far, lest the unique personality which each of us possesses should be warped or crushed; and the difficulty of striking a happy mean in this respect renders education the tremendous task it is. Mookerjee's training was very far from being an ideal one. His intellect was forced at the expense of his moral sense; and to the end of his life he retained many characteristics of a spoiled child. Impatient of control, wayward and impulsive, he brought into play but a small portion of his great talents, and dissipated energies which, if properly used, would have made him a leader of men. We find him "everything by turns and nothing long:" and it was only when life's shadows began to lengthen that he settled down in the literary path, looking neither to the right hand nor to the left.

After two years' work on the *Hindoo Patriot* he suddenly resolved to be a "limb of the law," and became an articled clerk in the office of Messrs. Allin, Judge and Linghum. But he was not long in finding out that the profession was one wholly unsuited to his genius; and the death of his mother, to whom he was devotedly attached, occurring on the eve of the Attorney's Examination, he bade farewell for the time to lawbooks. He was welcomed back by his friend Hurish Chunder Mukerji and formally appointed Sub-Editor of the *Hindoo Patriot*. During the next three years he virtually edited that paper; for his chief was seized by a sickness to which, after a prolonged struggle, he succumbed. Mookerjee became his biographer; and his work bears eloquent testimony to his own culture, as well as to the merit of his benefactor. Though poor Hurrish Chunder was cut off at 39, he left a profound and abiding impression behind him. Like his annalist he came of a Kulin stock; but unlike him, he was thrown penniless on the world at the outset of active life, and his education was laboriously acquired in the scanty leisure left by absorbing duties. While still a boy, he became a clerk in a Calcutta mercantile house; and, years afterwards, was promoted to similar but better paid functions in a Government office, which he held till his death. The story of the *Hindoo Patriot*'s birth and vigorous youth is told in this biography. The paper arose from the ashes of the *Bengal Recorder*, one of the ephemerides which herald the awakening of a nation's literary spirit. The proprietor found it a losing speculation: and in June 1854 offered the press and good will for a mere song. Hurish Chunder Mukerji, who had been one of the leading contributors, saw an opportunity of gratifying a darling ambition, and became the purchaser. The transaction was necessarily *benami*: for his master, the Military Auditor General, would hardly have approved of a proprietor editor of a journal as one of his subordinates. The "man of straw" put forward was an elder brother, Babu Haran Chundra Mukerji, but the entire labour of editing and management fell on Hurish. The struggle was long and severe: and at one time the poor *keranis* salary was taxed to the extent of Rs. 100 a month to meet the deficit in income. He bore the ordeal with heroic courage, which was at last rewarded by the pecuniary success of his venture. His untimely death, however, robbed his family of the benefit they might have derived from a fine literary property. Babu Kaliprasanna Singha, the translator of the *Mahabharata*, purchased the paper from the executors, and satisfied the claim of the *benamidar* by a trifling solatium. In the course of 1860, Dr. Mookerjee wrote a pamphlet containing a powerful indictment of the policy of Mr. James Wilson who had been sent out to restore equilibrium to the shattered finances of the Empire. One of his expedients for refilling the exchequer was the cordially hated Income tax, which violates nearly all the essentials laid down by economists as those of an equitable assessment. Nor is its author alone attacked. The then Viceroy, Lord Canning, comes in for a share of invective which would be impossible in these decorous days. The history of his selection as Viceroy is told, I believe, for the first time, thus:—"The Prime Minister of England exercises an almost divine prerogative in influencing by a single choice the fortunes of two hundred millions of his fellow

creatures. People, however, come to entertain very low ideas of the ministerial sense of responsibility when they learn what considerations lead to the choice of Governors-General. One is a cousin to be provided for; another is better abroad; and as for Tom, he was a fine fellow at College. It is reported that when Lord Palmerston was asked the sort of 'mute inglorious Miltonism' which his penetrating vision discerned in Lord Canning to entitle him to his present appointment, he naively exclaimed,—'Ah, well, well, his father was the first man who gave me a place in the Cabinet and—.'" The pamphleteer's views have much of the crudeness of youth about them. He lays down the truism that Government is but a question of rupees, annas and pice, and that it must be judged by the practical success of its financial measures. But he goes on to argue that the obnoxious impost is opposed to the spirit of the Queen's Proclamation; that taxation of all kinds implies popular representation. He did not reflect that the times were not propitious for experiments in the art of ruling. The India of 1858 had but just emerged from a civil war which had drenched her fairest provinces with blood: and her maladies needed firm as well as sympathetic treatment. De Tocqueville sounds a note of wholesome warning when he remarks that there is no period so fraught with danger to a bad Government as that in which it enters on a course of attempted reform. The events of 1857 showed that ours then came within the category.

The new proprietor of the *Hindoo Patriot* was a youthful millionaire with generous—too generous—instincts. Dr. Mookerjee vainly strove to avert the ruin foreshadowed by his employer's extravagance: and when he found that his own reputation would be sullied by further association with a spendthrift, he sought another sphere of work. He finally closed with an offer made him by Babu Dakhina Ranjan Mukerji, who after a chequered career, had established himself as a landowner in Oudh, to proceed to Lucknow as Secretary of the brand-new Taluqdar's Association. Under the auspices of that body he edited a weekly journal in English called *Samachar Hindustani*, in opposition to a local Anglo-Indian Journal edited by a Mr. H. D. Chick, a bitter opponent of the Taluqdars. Mookerjee soon showed that he carried too many guns for his antagonist. The latter's paper collapsed and he beat a retreat; while Mookerjee was hailed as a deliverer by the Taluqdars trembling for their new status. It was while editing the *Samachar Hindustani* that Mookerjee had frequent passages at arms with Dr. D. B. Smith who then was in charge of a little paper called *The Hills* issued from Masuri. In these encounters Mookerjee proved his resourcefulness and ability for controversy. From Lucknow he also sent contributions to the *Hindoo Patriot* which was then under the charge of his friend Rai Kristo Dass Pal Bahadar. During his stay there he took lessons from that sweet singer Miah Amir Ali, grandson of the famous Shori Miah, the Verdi of Hindustani music. Throughout his life he cherished a passionate love for that beautiful art, which satisfied the cravings of his emotional nature. Gœthe has laid down as the three essentials of culture that a man must never spend a day without listening to good music, gazing on a splendid picture, or conversing with a lovely woman. The first, and perhaps the last, are difficult but not impossible of attainment in India, but the second, appreciation of which evidences a far higher degree of refinement, is utterly beyond the reach of Indian youth. A Government which disposes of scores of millions hardly possesses a single picture worthy of study. Mookerjee's enjoyment of music was intense. It is related of him that a few years before his death he was a guest at one of those splendid entertainments given by the great Houses of Calcutta to celebrate the Durga Puja. Ravished by the melody produced by the best artists of our day, he was called back to a sordid world by the ill-timed chattering of a man who, millionaire like the host, began prating of the subject nearest and dearest to him—money. The Doctor withered his interlocutor with a glance and stalked out of the hall in disgust.

We have seen how Mookerjee's caprice and distaste for routine led him into the cardinal error of changing his profession. The same defects militated against his success as an employé. It is, indeed, difficult to conceive a nature less liable than his, less prone to subject his own will to the whim of a master. Service, the old proverb hath it, is no inheritance: but it has the immense advantage of disciplining the mind and teaching a lesson which Mookerjee was fated never to learn—self-control. In 1864 he was introduced by his close friend the Nawab Abdool Luteef Khan Bahadur to the Nawab Nazim of Bengal who still kept up a semblance of Majesty* on very inadequate resources at Murshidabad. The Nazim had fallen out with his Dewan, and was seeking to replace him. Mookerjee's evident culture and his distinguished manners caught his fancy; and he appointed him Political Adviser and soon afterwards Dewan. Here Mookerjee found himself in the vortex of a whirlpool of intrigue. The discarded minister had a strong following among the *amla*; and every action of his successor was misrepresented. He failed, too, in the caution necessary in so ticklish an office. Drastic changes were carried into effect which raised a nest of hornets about his ear. Amongst them was a reduction in the perquisites of the eunuchs—a class which wields immense, if occult, influence in an oriental Court. Echoes of the intense irritation that resulted reached Mookerjee's father, then grievously ill at Baranagore, who sent a nephew with strict injunctions to bring his too daring son home at any cost. The young Dewan, however, stuck to his guns for a retreat would have given his foes cause of rejoice. More active measures on their part followed. Mookerjee's house was beset by a gang of ruffians; and but for the timely arrival of the Police, he would have suffered the gravest indignities. Then the law was prostituted to serve private spite. A false information was laid in the criminal court to the effect that the Dewan had misappropriated state papers: and the Joint-Magistrate of Lalbagh was induced to attempt a search of his home. The official was met on the threshold by Mookerjee, who begged a hearing ere unmerited disgrace was inflicted on him. A parley ensued: and the Magistrate was inclined to believe that the story told him was false. The band of accusers, however, were urgent in repeating their calumnies. He was hesitating when an express came from the District Magistrate at Berhampur directing an immediate suspension of proceedings. His enemies were baffled; but the too ardent reformer was not destined to trouble them much longer. He was summoned to Calcutta to perform his father's *sraddh* and returned no more to the scene of his first essay in administration. A suit was afterwards brought against him by the Nazim Dewan, claiming damages for the alleged loss of state-papers confided to his care. A move which might have been his ruin redounded to his advantage. Not only did he succeed in proving to the court the groundlessness of the charge, but he established a counter-claim for a large sum due on commissions for purchases made in Calcutta, which was recovered from the plaintiff.

Mookerjee's day-dreams of glory to be acquired in the sphere of politics ended, he was fain to return to the *Hindoo Patriot*. Among reviews written by him at this period were those on Sir William Hunter's *Rural Bengal*, and Talboys Wheeler's *History of India*. His discrimination and wide reading eminently fitted him to shine as a reviewer: and he had the rarest of qualities—that of withholding praise where none was due. But his love of change was incessantly spurring him to seek new fields of labour. He was offered the head-mastership of the Calcutta Training Academy, and after some hesitation accepted it. The "twice-boiled cabbage," as Juvenal calls it, of the school-room was even less to his taste than the drudgery of office: and his career as a dominie was a brief one. It was not without a beneficial influence on his development; for while residing at the Hindu Hostel as Principal, he became the centre of a coterie which included the fine flower of the Indian intellect of the day. Among them were Babu Krishna Kamal Bhattacharjya, now Principal of the Ripon College; Syama Charan Ganguli, who fills similar functions in the Utterpara Institution, Dwarka Nath Mitter, the most learned and unsoiled of Indian Judges; Syama Charan Biswas the greatest of our Accountants-General; Ashutosh Mukerjee (senior) the distinguished holder of a Premchand-Raychand Scholarship. These, and other lesser lights of this generation met regularly at Mookerjee's quarters and beguiled the hours of night by discussing Fichte, Comte and Schopenhauer.

But the charms of these symposia were far from making amends for the irksomeness of a difficult and thankless profession. In 1868 he fell in readily with advice given by his friend Nawab Abdool Luteef Khan to accept an offer of the post of Secretary made by the Raja Sheoraj Singh of Kashipore. His new employer had recently obtained a seat on the Viceregal Legislative Council: and being a noble of the old school, found his ignorance of English a serious obstacle in that august assembly. Mookerjee was engaged to be his "ghost" in modern literary slang,* and accompanied him to Kashipur. The Raja's servants had celebrated their master's approaching return by a great hunting expedition, in the course of which they laid a mighty boar low. The first sight that met the former's eyes on entering his palace was the dead monster laid out for his inspection, surrounded by a group of exultant *shikaris*. Overjoyed at the happy omen, he ordered the noble quarry to be divided, and sent a goodly portion of the meat to his new secretary. Mookerjee found himself in a dilemma. As be-

* I became intimate with this unfortunate Prince while I was officiating as Magistrate of Murshidabad in 1883. He was always preceded in his walks abroad by a Chobdar, who proclaimed his style and titles in a loud voice, a ceremony by the way, which was adopted by an Anglo-Indian of high official rank as lately as 1825. The Nazim Mansur Ali was a loveable and accomplished man; and more than one of his sons would have gained distinction but for their birth in a thread-bare purple. Those who knew and still lament poor Sultan Saheb will agree with me.—F. H. S.

* Rich nobodies aspiring to shine in the firmament of art, politics or literature, often engage people better equipped with brains than money to write, paint or carve for them. Such is human nature that they come to regard their *ghost's* productions as *bona fide* their own.—F. H. S.

came a staunch Brahman, he was a vegetarian: while a strict adherence to his scners would cause offence to his patron. The dread of losing caste prevailed; and he sent back the obnoxious haunch. The Raja strove hard to conquer Mookerjee's scruples: and even assembled Pandits to decide the knotty point. Their verdict was to the effect that wild boars' flesh was not tabooed by the Shastras. But Mookerjee, though "convinced against his will," still respectfully declined the present. It is to the Raja's credit that he showed no resentment at this display of independence: and warmly recommended his sturdy follower to the notice of the Nawab of Rampur who needed a Personal Assistant. Mookerjee was invited to Rampur and soon gained great influence over the chief---so great, indeed, that the jealousy of the leading courtiers was evoked. Unable to tolerate a Hindu in a position of trust about their sovereign, they intrigued hard to prevent his final and formal appointment to the vacant post. The outcome was delay and excuses; and when the Nawab made a definite offer to Mookerjee, it was clogged with the condition that he should give up all relation with a brother of whom the chief was intensely jealous. Now, a friendship, dating from his stay in Murshidabad, united Mookerjee to this scion of the Rampur House. He nobly refused to sacrifice it to a prospect of wordly advantage, and left the Rampur territories. While making arrangements for a tour in the Upper Provinces which would have embraced Jeypur and probably changed the current of his life, he was recalled to Calcutta by the news of his wife's serious illness. As I have already related, the issue was long and doubtful: but skilful medical help and her husband's unceasing devotion at length restored her to her family. In the intervals of watching at the invalid's bedside he found time to start a Magazine* which bore his name and had a very fair circulation until merged in the larger venture of *Reis and Rayyet*. Nor was the *Hindoo Patriot*, that arena of his early journalistic efforts, forgotten. In its columns appeared a biography of that curious phenomenon, the Begum Sekandra of Bhopal, which has profound interest for those who advocate the fullest play for woman's faculties. The most conservative must admit that when an Indian female has been vested with power, she has generally used it to greater advantage than the majority of rulers belonging to the stronger sex as it is called.

The law always exercised a strange fascination on Mookerjee. We have already seen that he was unable to endure the long probation required by the attorney's profession. As the attainment of the status of Pleader made no such demands on his patience, he appeared at the annual examination at Allahabad, but a severe attack of asthma cut short his efforts as a candidate. He was soon recalled to Calcutta to preside at his daughter's marriage; and did not return to the capital of the North Western Provinces. During the next year or two he was absorbed in press work: but the nomad spirit finally became too strong for resistance. In the winter of 1876 he waited on His Highness the Maharaja of Jeypur, † who was on a visit to Calcutta, and obtained from him, without any solicitation, a promise of the post of Private Secretary with a reversion to that of Dewan. While waiting for a formal appointment, he noticed an advertizement in the *Indian Daily News* announcing the Maharaja of Hill Tippera's desire to appoint a successor to his minister, Babu Nilmoni Das. He immediately submitted an application, of which he heard nothing for many months. Then came an autograph letter from the Maharaja which announced its receipt but enquired the reason of the inordinate delay in forwarding it. Mookerjee saw that his letter had been detained owing to palace intrigues: and acting under His Highness's advice, he sent a second application which was immediately complied with. He was appointed Minister of Hill Tippera on a salary of Rs. 500 per mensem with a residence and various other perquisites probably amounting to as much more in value. In December 1877 he proceeded to his new sphere of action. It was one even less suited to a man of his tastes than Murshidabad had been. There he had been within easy reach of the capital, at a court still retaining some of the amenities which had distinguished it while its master ruled Bengal, Behar and Orissa. Tippera was a congeries of low hills clad with trackless jungle, then on the easternmost confines of British territory. The Maharaja was a man of culture and even erudition: but his sons were still boys and the rest of his family plunged in pristine barbarism. Society, so far as it existed at all, was in the same plight. Mookerjee was cut off from the cheerful ways of man as completely as Ovid, that sweetest singer of the Augustan age, when banished by imperial jealousy to the shores of the Black Sea. Nor was his outlook, from an official point of view, more promising. The little state was torn by dissensions arising from the "Great Water Question," as it was called. Like the rulers of most of our hill territories, the Maharaja was fully persuaded that he was of pure Kshatriya stock, a descendant of the Lunar race: but many good Hindus believed as firmly that alliances in the past with non-Aryan mountaineers have sullied the purity of his descent. Such sceptics declined to take water from his hands, though no Barhman would scruple to accept a draught from a genuine member of the warrior caste. Others were less scrupulous: and in process of time this shibboleth was exacted from all candidates from office. The Maharaja never reflected that a man capable of sacrificing his religious prejudices to worldy profit* was not likely to be a trusty servant or a disinterested adviser. Hence, bad counsels prevailed: the palace became a hot-bed of intrigues: and greater importance was attached to hood-winking the European Political Agent than executing indispensable reforms. Mookerjee found his endeavours for the public good constantly thwarted by unseen influences. An estrangement from his master followed; due in part to the latter's weakness, but also, it must be admitted, to Mookerjee's pride and that excessive sensitiveness which anticipates a slight. Things came to a climax in October 1879; when Mookerjee learnt that a sanhedrim of Pandits from Eastern Bengal was being secretly planned in view of obtaining an

* I have been favoured by Babu Kisari Mohan Ganguli with the following note on *Mookerjee's Magazine*:---

"The first series of the Magazine extended from February to June 1861, altogether five numbers. The second, a new series, ran from July 1872 to December 1875, ten numbers being issued every year. The celebrated *Baroda* number belonged to this series. It was a scathing attack on the abortive attempt to judge the unfortunate ruler Mulhar Rao by a council of his peers. When it came out, it created a great sensation. Lord Northbrook, although it was an unsparing criticism of his proceedings towards Mulhar Rao, admired it highly. For a long time it was believed to be the production of Mr. Montriou of the Calcutta bar. The ability of the writing, as discovered in this book, appeared so great that those who did not know Mookerjee well could not believe that a native could write so vigorously and show so complete a mastery of the details of criminal law, of Indian politics and of the intrigues of native courts."

† Babu Kisari Mohan Ganguli writes as follows:--"Maharajah Ram Sing of Jeypore was a sincere admirer of talent. He had heard of Mookerjee many years previously. As one of the commissioners selected by Lord Northbrook for trying Mulhar Rao on the accusation of Colonel Phayre, the Maharajah had a personal interest in the *Baroda* number of *Mookerjee's Magazine*. He had heard that the book was a very able impeachment of Lord Northbrook's Baroda policy, and that many new arguments were addressed to the reader bringing out the innocence of Mulhar Rao. The whole question, again, of the relations of the native chiefs to the Paramount Power was discussed for the first time by an Indian scholar of reputation who was thoroughly conversant with everything published on that topic. Maharajah Ram Sing, it is said, caused the book to be translated into Urdu and read to him. Having mastered its contents in this way, he formed a very high idea of the abilities of Mookerjee. The very next time he came to Calcutta, he sent his trusted adviser Babu Kanti Chandra Mookerjee to see Dr. Mookerjee and arrange an interview. Babu Kanti Chandra had at one time been a teacher in the Janai school and was well known to Mookerjee's friend, the lamented Babu Jadu Nath Ghose of the Seals' Free College of Calcutta, 'the Arnold of India' as Kristodas used to call him. With Babu Jadu Nath, Kanti Chandra came to Dr. Mookerjee and arranged the much desired interview. Dr. Mookerjee was received with great cordiality by Maharajah Ram Sing. His polished conversation, his thorough command of Urdu, and the range of his information, at once struck his illustrious host, who was no mean judge of human nature. The impression made by Dr. Mookerjee on the Maharajah created deep jealousy among certain officials of Jeypore. When Dr. Mookerjee next went to visit the Maharajah, he was kept waiting for a long time in the hope that he would feel annoyed and go away. The old official of the Nizamut knew enough of the ways of native courts to attach much importance to those tactics. He waited and at last the *Ettala* (information) had to be sent. When the Maharajah met him, the usual polite enquiries were exchanged. Dr. Mookerjee informed his host of what had happened. The Maharajah called his superior officials and attendants, and warned them seriously, saying that Dr. Mookerjee had not come of his own accord, but that he was an invited and honored guest. If, after that warning, anybody dared to delay in sending the *Ettala*, the Maharajah knew how to behave towards him. With many apologies for the rudeness of his servants, the Maharajah dismissed Mookerjee early than he had wished. The latter, before his departure, took care to impress upon one official in particular that his jealousy was causeless, for he (Dr. Mookerjee) had not the remotest wish to supplant him, or, indeed, to enter into the Maharajah's service. The Prince soon afterwards died to the great regret of all who admired statesmanlike qualities in a ruler."

* The institution of monarchy has its advantages: but honourable men must doubt whether they are not counterbalanced by the debauchery of public morals caused by certain of its phases. It appears to be admitted that any man has a right to barter his religion for a throne. Henry IV of France did so and his pithy excuse that "Paris is well worth a mass" is quoted in his extenuation by good Protestants. His example has been repeatedly followed, notably by the father of the king of the Belgians, and by the present Czarina of all the Russias.---F. H. S.

authoritative recognition of the Maharaja's claims. Not only was he offended at the evident want of confidence in himself thus displayed, but he foresaw failure and disgrace involving all who were, or were presumed to be, advisers of the Maharaja. He, therefore, resolved to abandon a false position; and went to Calcutta without obtaining leave but with a determination to return no more to the Hill Territory. To pursue this Tippera episode to its close: the Maharaja retained a profound sense of his minister's intellectual powers and made more than one attempt to win him back. While on his way to Brindabun in 1884, he induced Mookerjee to accept the post of paid Adviser on the understanding that Calcutta, and not Agartala, should be his headquarters. It is characteristic of my subject's utter disregard for pelf that he never deigned to draw the salary attached to his office, though it was regularly provided for in the state budget, thus surrendering nearly Rs. 20,000 in the aggregate. In 1885 I became Magistrate of the British district of Tippera and *ex officio* Political Agent of the Hill Territory. Like most of my colleagues who have held that office I strove hard to restore equilibrium to the finances and to raise the character of the administration. My efforts were misrepresented by the "reptile press;" and to my surprize I found *Reis and Rayyet*---of which more anon---ranged on the side of brass-bound conservatism. Now I am impervious to anonymous press attacks. "As the world educates men to become indifferent to praise and censure, as neither perfection nor devotion ensures its favour, misfortunes ensure its contempt, success its envy and hate, the best course is to seek the approval of one's own conscience." But the case was different when I saw a man whom I respected misled by persons interested in the maintenance of gross abuses. I, therefore, gave Mookerjee a candid account of the facts on which my action had been based. He replied in a conciliatory strain and animadversions in his paper ceased. I deeply regret not having preserved the correspondence which passed between us. Mookerjee's private letters, like his literary work, have a distinct flavour of their own,---and I never knew a more complete illustration of the saying "a man's style is himself."

On Mookerjee's return to civilization he was named by the Chief Justice of Bengal a member of a Commission appointed for the partition of the estates of the Rani Rashmani. He entered on these functions with zest: for he had known the deceased lady; and had qualified her as "a remarkable woman who as one of the greatest land-owners in this country, a she-Crœsus of Calcutta, had managed to foil the eagles of the period." Alas! her property, governed with consummate care during her life-time, became the prey of less noble birds after her death. Amongst them---in a figurative sense, of course---I must include the legal tribe and the commissioners for the partition. This is always a tedious process, and it is not shortened by the system of remuneration adoped by the High Court---a fee of five gold mohurs to each commissioner for a sitting.

In 1882 he founded the wellknown weekly paper *Reis and Rayyet* which has always been conspicuous for literary finish and generally for breadth of view. Here at length he found his proper place---an editorial chair from which he could deal with the topics of the day in his own peculiar vein---the professor's tempered with a certain dry humour. No weekly periodical, not even the *Hindoo Patriot* in the days of Kristodas Pal, enjoyed a degree of influence approaching that of *Reis and Rayyet*. It brought Mookerjee into confidential relations with the makers of history Lord Dufferin, amongst others, was his constant correspondent. It sobered his judgment, and deepened his sense of responsibility. Finally it anchored him to a position for which he was especially fitted.

The intervals between his editoral labours in 1883 were occupied in the production of his *Travels in Eastern Bengal*---a rich and fertile tract to which he was bound by ties of ancestral sympathy. The book is rather prolix and desultory: but it contains some wonderful pieces of word-painting. The reader is penetrated by the subtle influences of nature as manifested in those Netherlands of Bengal. The skies lit up by sunsets of transcendant beauty or darkened by masses of rolling cloud; the broad expanses of vivid green broken only by the clumps of graceful foliage which mark the jealously-guarded penates of a wealthy peasantry; the majestic rivers covered with outlandish crafts whose pattern has not altered since Vikramaditya reigned and Manu laid down the law; the swirl of the tall rice plants against one's boat as it is vigorously impelled by the black but comely gondoliers;---all comes back to him who, possessing local knowledge, peruses this record of travel. Not less will he acknowledge the unfeigned goodness of heart which underlies an affected cynicism. In May 1884 he came prominently before the public in a new capacity---that of after-dinner speaker. There are few faculties rarer than that which enables a man to make a creditable display in that character: and he showed that he possessed it in a marked degree. I was present on the occasion---a public dinner given at the Raja of Paikpara's Calcutta mansion in honour of Mr. Joubert, the organizer of the International Exhibition of 1883, and was introduced to Dr. Mookerjee by my old friend Mr. W. H. Grimley, now Commissioner of Chota-Nagpur. Dr. Johnson said of Burke that no one could spend five minutes in his company while sheltering himself from a shower under an archway without discovering that he was an extraordinary man. My experience of Mookerjee reminded me of this remark. We were neighbours at table and I had ample opportunity of observing him. He looked much older than his years---forty-six: and his spare frame and deeply-lined features gave one the idea of a man long past his prime. His face was of the highest Aryan type, his eyes penetrating and luminous; while sedate humour played round his mobile lips. We soon became absorbed in colloquy to the neglect, I fear, of the banquet and the other guests around us. Never have I passed a more delightful evening---not even at the house-dinners of the Savage Club, which attract the best Englishmen of the day. The Doctor's originality of mind was not less conspicuous than his memory. The first enabled him to pour forth the quaintest criticism of men and things: the second to illustrate his views by a flood of apt quotations. These pre-occupations did not prevent his acquitting himself more than creditably as an orator. He instituted a masterly comparison between the great Show on the eve of closing and its predecessors since 1851. Shortcomings were not concealed, but due credit was given for the dauntless energy which triumphed over so many obstacles. "India," he said, "had neither the soil nor the elasticity enjoyed by young and vigorous communities; but presented the arid rocks and deserts of an effete civilization, hardly stirred to a semblance of life by a foreign occupation dozing over, over its easily-gained advantages." He was cheered to the echo; and there were some present who regretted that gifts so rare had not found wider scope in his country's service.

---*The National Magazine.* F. H. SKRINE.

THE HANDFUL OF THINGS WE KNOW.

SEVERAL years ago an American humorist and poet published some verses called "Little Breeches." This was an odd name given to a very small boy who was caught out in a tremendous snowstorm, and finally found in some hay quite a distance from the house. However the boy got there bothered everybody to explain. It was certain he never could have walked. So his father said the angels must have done it; "they just stooped down and toted him to where it was safe and warm, he said." The poetry about it (supposed to have been written by the youngster's father) starts off in this way:—

I don't go much on religion,
I never ain't had no show;
But I've a middling tight grip, sir,
On the handful of things I know.

That's it; *the handful of things we know.* There aren't many of 'em, but there are a few. And one of them is this: That for a hundred results there is only one cause. Nature develops and makes differences; never a new force.

Here, for example, is an incident which shows our meaning. About Christmas, 1889, Mr. E. B. Wright had an attack of influenza. Previous to this he had always been strong and hearty. Well, he got over the influenza; still, it had given him (as he says) "a shake." After this he got along fairly well, until February of this year (1892) when the influenza attacked him again. This time the malady "meant business." Nearly every bone and muscle in his body ached like sore teeth. His skin was hot and dry, and to bed he was obliged to go. For sixteen days he was under a doctor. At the end of that time he found himself alive and that was about all you could say for him.

In his letter he goes on to tell what happened next. "I had a foul taste in the mouth," he says, "and my teeth and tongue were covered with a thick slimy phlegm. My wife says my tongue was like an oyster shell, and I'm sure it was rough as nutmeg grater. What I ate, which wasn't much, gave me pain in the chest and sides. After a mouthful or two I felt full and blown out, and I used to swell to a great size. By and-by a hacking cough set in and my breathing got short and quick. At night I lay for hours gasping for breath, and often coughed so I was afraid I should burst a blood vessel. I got weaker and weaker and *was like broken-winded horse.* The doctor said it was asthma, but he wasn't able to relieve it. Although I live only two minutes' walk from the factory where I work, I had to stop and rest on my way many a time.

"Thus matters went with me until June, 1892. Then one day I took up the *Essex Newsman*, and read of a man living at Earsham, near Bungay, having been cured by Mother Seigel's Curative Syrup. I got some of this medicine from the International Tea Company, Braintree. After a few doses my breathing grew easier, and by keeping on with the Syrup my food soon digested, the cough left me, and I gained strength. I am now as strong as ever, can eat anything, and walk for miles. I am a brushmaker, and work at the factory of Messrs. John West and Sons, High Street, Braintree, and have lived in this town over forty years. (Signed) E. B. WRIGHT, Sandpit Road, Braintree, Essex, August 23rd, 1892"

Now let us see how this illustrates the proposition we started out with. For almost three years Mr. Wright was ill with what seemed like a series of different diseases. He had the influenza twice, the asthma once, and another disease which he gives no name to even if he recognised it. Look for a moment at the variety and incongruity of the pains and troubles he mention, and he doesn't describe them all, either. You would fancy he had half a dozen ailments at least. Yet he had *but one*—indigestion and dyspepsia—of which all his bodily disturbances (influenza included—a blood disease) were symptoms. All came out of the stomach, and when Seigel's Syrup set *that* right the others quietly departed.

What, then, is *one thing* of "the handful of things we know?" Answer: That nearly all sorts of diseases are really symptoms of indigestion and dyspepsia, and that Mother Seigel's Curative Syrup cures it.

Double that fact up in your fist and hold on to it tight.

THE MAHOMEDAN LITERARY SOCIETY.

The Thirty-first Annual Conversazione of the Mahomedan Literary Society of Calcutta will be held at the Town Hall on Wednesday the 30th January 1895, at 9 P M.

A. F. M. ABDUR RAHMAN,
Honorary Secretary.

16, Taltollah.
The 17th January 1895.

To Contractors.

1. Sealed Tenders will be received by the Superintendent up to 6th February 1895, for the supply of cloth, coal, coke, oils, timber, tin ingot, and other stores (more or less) to the Small Arms Ammunition Factory Dum-Dum from the 1st April 1895 up to the 31st March 1896. The term "more" includes the supply of stores, if required, up to 25 per cent. in excess of the original tender

2. Printed forms of tenders for the supply of stores for which tenders are invited are obtainable from this office daily (Sunday and holidays excepted) on payment of one rupee.

3. Tenders should be accompanied by a deposit as earnest money in Bank of Bengal receipt or in Government promissory notes calculated at the rate of two per cent. on the stores tendered. This deposit will be returned on execution of the contract deed or rejection of the tenders.

4. Preference will be given to local manufacture.

5. Tenders will be opened at this office at 12 o'clock on the 7th February 1895. Parties tendering are invited to attend.

6. The Inspector General of Ordnance does not bind himself to accept the lowest or any tender.

7. Further particulars as to conditions of tender will be found in I. O. Form 103, which will be furnished with the tender form.

J. G. STONE, *Lieut. Col., R. A.,*
Superintendent.

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WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

VOL. XIV. CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, JANUARY 26, 1895. WHOLE NO. 659.

CONTEMPORARY POETRY.

ON THE MASSACRE OF A CONVENT OF NUNS AT PARIS, AT THE TIME OF THE REVOLUTION.

I STOOD in France's capital,
'T was Terror's dismal reign,
The sights of fear I witnessed there
May I ne'er view again.

Oh! may I never hear on earth
Such sounds as met mine ear,
The murderous shout, the horrid mirth,
The shriek of deadly fear.

The curse of blood was on the place—
On woman, child, and man,
And a stream of blood, like an autumn flood,
Through all the city ran.

And aye was seen a hellish band
Of fiends in carnage dyed,
And the clothes they wore were sprinkled o'er
With a dark and ghastly tide.

Where'er they came, that blood-stained crew,
Nor age nor sex they spared,
And in search to slay, like beasts of prey,
Their eyes insatiate glared;

And fierce they laughed a fearful yell,
In wild and fiendish glee,
And loud was the shout of that fearful rout,
And their shout was "Liberty!"

Yes! so did they profane that time
The Watchwurd of the Free,
As if her name to deeds of shame
Could e'er a sanction be.

Oh, God! it was a dreadful sight
The dying and the dead:
And the blood-red light through the gloom of night
That the torch of Carnage shed!

I feel, I know, I saw it all,
Yet can't tell where nor how;
Though it did seem some fearful dream,
'T is all before me now.

It was a nation's bloody zeal
Their monarch to destroy,
Show her their queen who erst had been
That people's pride and joy.

I saw the tears of bearded men
Shed o'er their children dead,
And dame, and knight, and maiden bright,
To the same scaffold led.

While the gory axe with ceaseless stroke
Still sped the work of death;
And its baleful sound fell on all around,
Like the Siroc's blasting breath.

But *one* day I remember well
The sun was shining o'er,
So bright his smile, I dreamt awhile,
That carnage was no more.

But, as I mused, broke forth afresh,
That cry of fiendish joy,
And I knew by the sound that the axe had found
Fresh victims to destroy.

I looked on these, 'twas a female band
In Religion's garb arrayed,
And at their side in horrid tide
Their ruthless murderers strayed.

Some there were gray and ancient dames,
With feeble step and slow,
Whose souls, I ween, long since had been,
Dead to this world below.

But some were maids of noble birth,
And beauteous as the day,
With form and face that well might grace
The bridal's bright array.

Yet all unmoved they passed to death,
Their eyes were fixed on heaven,
They prayed e'en then for those bloody men,
That their sins might be forgiven.

When sudden from their lips arose
A strain so pure and sweet,
Methought such sound alone was found
Where angel spirits meet.

'T was a song of praise I loved to hear
In peace and tranquil time,
But its glorious swell no tongue can tell,
Amid that rush of crime!

Oh! never can remembrance lose
Their rapture-breathing strain,
As they gazed on high at the cloudless sky,
Where they hoped to meet again!

Subscribers in the country are requested to remit by postal money orders, if possible, as the safest and most convenient medium. particularly as it ensures acknowledgment through the Department. No other receipt will be given, any other being unnecessary and likely to cause confusion.

I saw no more—I turned aside,
I could not see them die ;
But in mine ear rang loud and clear
Those notes of ecstasy.

But fainter, feebler grew the sound,
As ceased each victim's breath ;
Till one sweet tone was heard alone,
Then all was hushed in death.

And horror-struck I left the spot,
That land of blood and crime,
And many a sun his course has run
Since that ill-omened time.

But never can my soul forget
That wild and hellish cry,
And still I fear whene'er I hear
The shout of "Liberty !"

Oft, too, in sleep those maidens bright,
Like angel visions throng,
And voices sweet around me meet,
In that triumphant song.

WEEKLYANA.

WITH the commencement of next month, the Lieutenant-Governor makes a short tour in Midnapore. Starting on the 1st, he, accompanied by Lady Elliott, Colonel McArthur, Superintending Engineer, and Captain Currie, Private Secretary, visits Midnapore and Contai, and comes back to Calcutta in the forenoon of the 9th February.

***

SIR Charles and Lady Elliott entertained, last Wednesday, the Earl and Countess of Elgin to dinner.

***

SIR Charles Elliott's time draws nigh. He will cease to be the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal before the year is out. A Committee, with Mr. Allan Arthur as President, Mr. J. O'B Saunders as Treasurer, and Mr. David MacLaren Morrison as Secretary, is working for a parting portrait to Lady Elliott. Any, even the smallest—a valuable help to Sir Charles Elliott. If he has not earned a memorial, she well deserves the honour. The maximum subscription is Rs. 20.

***

THERE will be a Convocation of the University of Calcutta for conferring degrees, at the Senate House, this day.

***

THE examination for Sanskrit Titles for the year 1895 will begin on the 12th February.

***

THE first criminal sessions of the year in Calcutta will begin on Wednesday, the 6th February.

***

THE holidays of the year for the Calcutta Small Cause Court are :—

New Year's Day	1
Basanta Panchami, January 31 and February 1, ...	2
Dole Jatra, March 11	1
Eed-ul-Fitr, March 29 and 30	2
Good Friday including Chaitro Sankranti, April 12 and 13	2
Queen-Empress' Birthday, May 24	1
Dashará Gangá Snán, June 3	1
Id-uz-zohá, June 5 and 6	2
Muharram, July 1 to 3	3
Janma Ashtami, August 13	1
Fátiha Dauz Dahum, September 2...	1
Dusserah vacation, including Mahalaya, Durga, Lakhi and Kali Pujas and Bhratriditya, September 18 to October 19	32
Jagadhatri Puja, October 28 and 29	2
Christmas Holidays, December 23 to 31	9

and all Sundays.

WE give below the List of Vacations and Holidays for Arts Colleges in Bengal for 1895 :—

New Year's Day	1
Sripanchami	2
Dole Jatra	1
Id-ul-Fitr, March 29	1
Good Friday and Chait Sankranti / Easter Saturday	2
Summer Vacation, May 6 to June 22	42
Muharram, July 3 and 4	2
Janmashtami	1
Fatiha-dawazdaham	1
Mahalaya, September 18	1
Puja Vacation, September 23 to October 29	32
Christmas holidays, December 23 to 31	8
Sundays	52
Total ...	146

The number of holidays for Collegiate and 1st grade Training schools will be 78 days, and for Zilla schools 63 days, exclusive of Sundays.

***

THE following is an excellent *recipe* for an accident to which every body is subject :—

When a speck of dust or metal gets into the eye, the best plan is to shut it, and keep it shut for over a minute. Nature will then come to the relief, and there will be enough tear-like moisture to get rid of the obstruction, which will be found in one of the corners when the eye is finally opened.

The marvellous mechanism of the human eye affords enough protection to that valuable organ, and always works for its safety.

***

AS *jeu d'esprit*, the following can scarcely pass muster :—

"My good woman,' said the learned Judge, 'you must give an answer in the fewest possible words of which you are capable, to the plain and simple question whether, when you were crossing the street with the baby on your arm and the omnibus was coming down on the right side and the cab on the left and the brougham was trying to pass the omnibus, you saw the defendant between the brougham and the cab, or whether and when you saw him at all, and whether or not near the brougham, cab, and omnibus, or either or any two, or all of them respectively, or how it was.'"

The answer may, for aught anybody knows to the contrary, be a simple "No." Or, if "Yes," the witness may say,—I saw nothing between the omnibus and the brougham while the latter attempted to pass the former, at a point equally distant from the two. Irrespective of the answer, however, as an instance of a complicated question, it is not impassable, although judges and counsel do sometimes puzzle honest witnesses by a stream of words.

***

THE *Saturday Review* says:—

"Whatever his faults may be, it cannot be gainsaid that M. Zola has deserved well of the republic of letters. But he seems to be bent upon making himself almost as ridiculous as the German Emperor. M. Zola has now offered himself as a candidate for membership of the French Academy for the fifteenth time, and been rejected in favour of the son of M. Arsène Houssaye, who is said to possess all the dull talents necessary for an Academician. Mr. Whistler behaved with more self-respect in never condescending to compete as a candidate for admittance to our own Academy."

Election always and everywhere carries with it its own evils.

***

IN a school in the town of Leicester, a teacher asked one of the young pupils, "Why was Moses hidden in the bulrushes by his mother?" The prompt answer was,—"Because she did not want to have her baby vaccinated." Leicester is said to be "a fadstricken town." If compulsory vaccination be, as it undoubtedly is, an evidence of fad, more towns will come under the category than Leicester. India has got her Medical Congress, and with so many officials of pronounced sympathies with medical men, we shall all have to put up with many a fad before the year is out. A short Bill, making it compulsory for every man, woman, and child, in Bengal, to live in a well ventilated house, to drink nothing but filtered water, pronounced to be free from *bacilli* by the Civil Surgeon of the District, to wear no clothes which have not come from the *dhobi* within the last twenty-four hours, to eat no food without having submitted it to a medical man of the orthodox school, and to summon, when ill, no medical assistance save that of one who holds a certificate from the Magistrate of the District, countersigned by the President of the

Indian Medical Congress, stating that he has no faith in Homœopathy or Kaviraji, and that he has been known to have declared before two honest witnesses that Hahnemann and Charaka were imposters, may do much good to the land. The Bill should also make it obligatory on every adult male to kill at least fifty dogs in a year and a hundred poisonous snakes, so that these pests of humanity may soon be exterminated. Such slaughter is sanitation, *par excellence*, with regard to at least deaths from hydrophobia and snake poison.

NOTES & LEADERETTES,

OUR OWN NEWS,

&

THE WEEK'S TELEGRAMS IN BRIEF, WITH OCCASIONAL COMMENTS.

IN view of the assembling of Parliament, speeches are being made by ministers in support of their actions, past and prospective. Lord Rosebery, speaking at Cardiff, declared that the campaign against the House of Lords was inevitable since the Reform Bill of 1884. Government did not propose to touch the House of Lords, but merely to readjust the relations of the Upper Chamber in respect to the House of Commons. He further stated that the first measure in the coming session would be the disestablishment of the church in Wales. Mr. Asquith, addressing a meeting at Hull, said that extensive additions to the Navy were being provided for during the coming year. Government fully appreciate the necessity for the maintenance of British suzerainty on the seas, which is the best guarantee for the security of peace. Referring to the imposition of the cotton duties in India, Mr. Asquith declared that the step taken was essential for the improvement of the finances of that country; and as England held India in trust for the Indians it was impossible to exempt any particular English industries from the operation of the Tariff Acts. We wish the English Cabinet were always true to the trust! Sir W. Vernon Harcourt, in a speech delivered at Derby, declared that the peace of Europe was never more assured than at the present moment. He denied that he was adverse to a strong Navy, or that any dissension existed in the Cabinet. The Chancellor of the Exchequer also said that an early dissolution of Parliament was not contemplated, the intention of the Government being first to pass the principal measures of their programme. The Secretary of State for War, speaking at a Liberal meeting at Motherwell, said that Government had resolved to secure the naval predominance of Great Britain. The relations between England and Russia had never been more favourable and friendly than at present. Earl Spencer, in a speech made in Lancashire, said that the naval programme of the Government maintains British supremacy on the seas and includes a provision for increased armaments and sufficient harbours of refuge in various parts of the world.

AT a meeting of cotton spinners at Heywood resolutions were passed declaring that the reimposition of the cotton duties in India would further embarrass the home industry and that the utmost must be done to get the blunder rectified.

THE opinion prevails in shipping circles in London that the movement to induce the Indian Government to legislate in the matter of accommodation on board vessels carrying lascar crews, is inspired by the new labour unionists, with the object of ousting the Asiatic in favour of the European seaman.

A FORCE of seventeen thousand Chinese has been attacked and defeated by the Japanese troops near Haicheng. On the Japanese side 41 were killed and wounded, while the Chinese loss is stated to amount to nearly a thousand. A telegram received from Chefoo states that a portion of the Japanese fleet is bombarding Tenchowfu. H. M. S. Daphne and the American man-of-war Yorktown are cruising in the vicinity. It is also telegraphed that 25,000 Japanese troops landed amid a severe snowstorm at Tuncheng, thirty-five miles from Weihaiwei, a Japanese man-of-war having previously silenced the shore batteries. The British squadron has been cruising in the vicinity during the past week. The Japanese forces are closing round Weihaiwei, which is now isolated, and an assault on the defences by the Japanese troops is believed to be imminent. No news is obtainable of the state of affairs in the town, as the telegraph line from Weihaiwei to Tientsin has been cut. The Japanese have, however, been repulsed with heavy loss near Weihaiwei after several hours fighting. Foreigners are leaving that town by every available means. A large Japanese force has landed at Ninghai to assist in the investment of Weihaiwei. British, American, French, and German marines have been landed from their respective warships for the protection of the foreign settlement. According to the latest telegram, Weihaiwei is completely invested by the enemy.

M. FELIX FAURE'S supremacy in France has not commenced happily. M. Bourgeois having repeatedly failed to form a Cabinet, M. Ribot has been summoned to the Elysees

THE Greek Ministry has resigned. The reason is stated to be that M. Tricoupis had objection to the Crown Prince appearing in the street during a demonstration, and ordering the troops and police not to interfere with the people. M. Nicholas Delyanis, the son of M. P. T. Delyanis, the celebrated statesman and President of a former Greek Ministry, has formed a new Cabinet composed of non-Parliamentary members to carry on the Government during the general elections which the crisis has rendered inevitable.

MR. Cecil Rhodes, addressing a meeting of the Chartered South African Company, said that the new territory that had been acquired by them north of the Zumbesi would be virtually self-supporting. The country was healthy, fertile, and suitable for large bodies of British colonists. Mr. Rhodes prophesied an eventual federation with the Cape, and urged upon his hearers the immense advantage that Colonial expansion conferred upon British trade.

THE town of Kuchan, in Persia, has been destroyed by an earthquake. A number of persons have been killed, one hundred women being buried in one building alone.

AN insurrection broke out in Hawai on the 6th instant with the object of restoring Queen Lilnokalani to the throne. After two days' desultory fighting the revolution was suppressed. The losses on either side were slight. Eighty persons, mostly of British and American nationality, have been arrested for participation in the rising. It is stated that the 26,000 Japanese population of Hawai is showing signs of restlessness and inclination to acts of turbulence which are causing much anxiety to the Government. An American man-of-war has been ordered to Honolulu.

THE tramcar employés of Brooklyn have gone on strike and have assumed a threatening attitude towards any attempt being made to obtain fresh labour. Numerous riots have already occurred, and disturbances have reached such dimensions that the authorities have been compelled to call out seven thousand troops to restore order. Several conflicts have taken place between the troops and the rioters, in which many have been injured.

THE agreement on African affairs concluded between Great Britain and France defines the boundaries of the two Powers in Sierra Leone and concedes reciprocal facilities for trading on the land frontier. The French Press rejoices at the satisfactory settlement of this dispute, which removes all chances of future conflicts in the district, and hails it as a good augury for the negotiations that are proceeding with regard to other questions at issue between England and France in Africa.

LORD Randolph Churchill died on the morning of Thursday, the 24th January, after having been unconscious for the previous thirty-six hours.

A statesman of promise, who had shown the stuff he was made of, is taken away when he had hardly completed his fortysixth year. He had been round the world in search of health but that travel proved or hastened his death. He returned home only to die.

MONSEIGNEUR Izmirlian, the Armenian patriarch, has presented a most resolute letter to the Porte, in which he gives notice of his intention to send an independent person to Sassun to enquire into the truth of the atrocities committed by the Turkish soldiers and officials.

THE *Novoe Vremya* referring to complaints received from the Pamir region that the Afghans continue to maltreat the inhabitants of Shignan Roshan and to appeals made by the latter for Russian protection, urges upon Government the necessity of a prompt occupation of Shignan and Roshan by the advance posts of observation to legitimate the limit of the Russian southern boundary. The *Novoe Vremya* declares that Russia should act rapidly in such questions like England without asking for permission.

We confess we do not understand the phrase "to legitimate the limit of a boundary." Pleas of kinds have, from time to time, been put forward for extension of territory. They seem not exhausted yet.

ALDERMAN Ritchie dismissed the summons against the members of the Albert Club who were charged with infringing the provisions of the Betting Act. Leave to appeal against the decision was granted to the City Solicitor.

THE next or the thirty-first Conversazione of the Mahomedan Literary Society comes off next Wednesday night—9 to 12. Founded by Nawab Abdool Luteef Bahadoor, as Secretary, it is kept up with unflagging zeal by the next incumbent his son, Mr. Abdul Rahman. It is an institution of the city where all races meet, where you meet friends, the distinguished visitors to, and the great of the city, and are treated to the latest improvements in science. You have besides rare things collected for your delectation.

MR. C. C. Stevens has been re-appointed an Additional Member of the Governor General's Council. An official, he has, while acting dependently, spoken independently. It is significant of the recent nominations to the Council, that none of the native members has been reappointed. Following Mr. Norton, though from a different cause, the representative of the Madras Legislative Council to the Supreme Council, Mr. Bashyam Ayengar, has resigned his seat. He has not since his election been, and will not be, on account of professional engagements, able to attend. Hence the resignation. The Bombay member Mr. Perozshah Mehta was unable to be present last session. This does not bode good for an elected Supreme Legislative Council.

MR. Nolan is expected back to India by the middle of next month. Mr. Williams, officiating for him as Commissioner of the Rajshahi Division, and unwilling to revert to a District Collectorship, has applied for three months' leave. He has been consoled with the offer of the Chairmanship of the proposed Colliery Commission.

THE *Mirror*, not *Indian* but American, edited and published by the prisoners in the Minnesota State Prison, writes :—

"Many a career of crime has dated from the days that a convict completed a term of imprisonment and found that he could not cast aside disgrace. Think of turning such a character out upon the world without a cent in his pocket, or a human being he can call a friend. Think how little encouragement there is to him, hated, suspected, abandoned as he is, to begin life anew. Think how little encouragement there is to develop the good qualities which he may possess. You can not then be surprised that a criminal once, is a criminal for ever. He is turned adrift empty-handed, utterly dependent, to face a cold and scornful world. He is despised and rejected by men. The reminders of his crime follow him like a haunting spirit. At every turn, he meets a sneer or a taunting smile. After heroically struggling to reform, he yields again to temptation. He steals another horse, burglarizes another house or forges another cheque. Not because he was not in earnest when he formed that resolution of reformation in his prison cell, but because, from his own reasoning, there seemed nothing else for him to do. Good resolutions are highly commendable, but they do not satisfy hunger. Noble resolves challenge our warmest admiration, but they do not clothe the naked. The cravings of hunger, the wretchedness of exposure and the hopelessness of despair are powerful incentives to crime. Necessity for the moment overcomes the better purpose. The once penitent prisoner is driven to his life of crime. Society is again made to suffer. The state is again encumbered with additional expense and in spite of all precautions, the rigours of the law have proved in vain."

It is a faithful picture and a powerful appeal. Judges in India too have expressed themselves to that effect or admitted the inefficacy of rejected sentences. Mr. Justice Norris of the Calcutta High Court, would not sentence an old offender to a very long term of imprisonment, because the property stolen was small in value and his disability, as a convicted thief, stood in the way of his obtaining an employment. Mr. Knox Wight, the Additional Sessions Judge of the 24-Pergunnas, ordered a hardened criminal to transportation for life because of many petty thefts and attempts at thefts, and the Judge found no other means of protecting society against that habitual offender. In the North-Western Provinces, where the percentage of crime to population is greater than in Bengal, they have found what the *Mirror* says to be very true. They have established a Society under the name of Aid to Discharged Prisoners' Society, North-Western Provinces and Oudh. The object is to grant a released prisoner a small subsistence allowance for a short period and to set him up with the necessary appliances to follow the trade he has learnt in jail, or until such time as he can secure a suitable employment. The Society is registered under Act XXI. of 1860, and is managed by a Committee with Sir Charles Crosthwaite as President and Sir John W. Tyler as Secretary. This is the first experiment of the kind in India which has proved so successful in England and Scotland. The promoters deserve every encouragement and all the aid they require. Their humanity to the released prisoner is as much a matter of sympathy, as the consequent protection to society is deserving of earnest consideration by every member of the community. Other Provinces than the N.-W. P. are equally interested in a movement which aims at the reduction of crime and the reform of criminals.

A CONTEMPORARY remarks that "sanitation has reduced the mortality in Bengal jails to less than one-half of what it was twenty-five years ago, but dysentery and lung disease still prevail to an extent which puzzles the medical faculty." There is nothing to puzzle here if those medical men who have given them consideration to the question have their eyes about them. It is only among convicts belonging to the better classes of society that dysentery appears. This is certainly due to over-exertion and insufficiency of food. The jail diet is utterly unsuited to them and they are absolutely unable to live upon it. If the imprisonment be with hard labour, the regulation measure of work is exacted. No wonder, therefore, that they suffer from dysentery. This painful disease is often caused by dry food, and in its earlier stages a little quantity of *ghee* taken warm with old rice has been known to do good to the patients. The prison diet is not famous for its oily ingredients. Coarse rice, *phaseolus radiatus*, and a large quantity of potherbs, form the principal fare of the native convicts in the jails of Bengal. In many jails, the prisoners have no allowance of mustard oil to rub on their persons before bathing. So far as the causes of dysentery are understood by the people the wonder is that, large as the number is of deaths from that disease in our jails, the number is not larger yet. The mortality in our jails, from dysentery, is really larger than that shown in the official returns.

One cause of the lower figure is that, where possible, diseased and dying prisoners are made over to their relatives and friends before death, so that they may die outside the jails. Of those that thus die more die of dysentery than of any other disease.

THE same journal draws the attention of Sir John Lambert to what he calls the handbill nuisance of Calcutta. At the corner of Government Place and other fashionable parts of the town, handbills are ceaselessly thrown into every passing or standing carriage, to the infinite annoyance of ladies. Gentlemen also feel the practice to be troublesome. The conduct of the men who thus disturb occupants of carriages is described as "ungallant and wicked." The proper place for advertisements, it is said, is a newspaper, for "in a newspaper one expects them, one welcomes them, but in posters and handbills they are too obtrusive, and a nuisance, and quite out of place.' There can be no doubt that these remarks are called for in view of the evil that has suddenly grown up in our midst. In the two Railway stations also, *viz.*, Howrah and Sealdah, we hear that handbills are distributed by thousands every hour at certain seasons. The Railway Companies also drive a roaring trade by placing the walls of their principal stations at the disposal of advertisers. They, however, who distribute handbills and utilize the walls of railway stations, forget that gentlemen seldom read what is thus thrown into their carriages or posted on the walls of railway stations. Perhaps, one bill or placard

is read out of a hundred. It is so much waste of energy and money. Advertisements inserted in newspapers have far better chances of being read by the general public and are surely read by those whom they concern. The wisdom, again, of preferring weeklies to dailies for one's advertisements can scarcely be questioned. Dailies are washed off the table every day. Weeklies are certainly kept longer.

WHEN Englishmen in India see any one amongst themselves killed by a native, they generally lose their heads. The desire for vengeance becomes strong. Suggestions emanate from every quarter for the prompt change of the penal law in order to make an example of the assassin. Hanging, at such times, appears to them a very merciful mode of dealing with the offender. Death, than which there can be nothing more terrible this side the grave, is sought to be made more terrible still by the devices of ingenuity. It is not necessary to refer to the conduct of General Neil at Cawnpore towards those who were suspected of having spilled English blood during the days of the Sepoy supremacy. The cruelties committed at Delhi by the English soldiery, too often with the knowledge of the superior officers, and at a time when there was not the slightest prospect of resistance from any quarter, are full of the most harrowing details. The story of Hodson's shooting the princes, which was received with a shout of execration by the whole civilised world, curdles the blood by its details. England has warred with other enemies but never were the worst passions of English soldiers so roused as on the occasion of suppressing the Indian mutinies. The Sepoys had no doubt been guilty of excesses. But the punitive measures adopted by the reconquering army touched not the Sepoys only The unoffending country-people came in for a large share of the vengeance that was exacted by the conquerors. Even Christian missionaries coolly proposed the wholesale extermination of suspected villages. It required all the strength of Viscount Canning to restrain Europeans from further acts of violence upon a population incapable of even crying out under their sufferings. When Justice Norman was stabbed to death by Abdulla, the lifeless body of the Mussalman condemned to death by hanging, was under orders of a British proconsul, burned, to keep him away from his heaven. In the frontier, vengeful justice has sanctioned worse indignity. A murderous Ghazi must not only be hanged and his body burnt, but that body must be shockingly outraged before the final un-Mahomedan fiery disposal by being robed in hogskin. Englishmen often forget that there is nothing so majestic as the silent tread of British Justice as it solemnly pursues the criminal and sends him out of the world. The tragedy at Muridki has, as might be expected, thrown many Englishmen into hysterics. The sad fate of Colonel Money has exercised many of his brother officers so greatly that one of them has written to the *Pioneer* proposing that the assassin, instead of being hanged, should be blown away from the mouth of a cannon. The letter which the *Pioneer* has thought fit to publish, should be known more widely. Here are the strange arguments upon which "Dynamite" urges the doing away of hanging and the substitution of what he considers "a more terrible form of death."

"The terrible tragedy of the Muridki camp suggests the thought whether such crimes should not be met with a more deterrent punishment than death by hanging. This kind of punishment—terrible as it is—does not strike such terror into the hearts of evil-disposed persons as that other—the blowing away from a gun. It seems the only fitting punishment for a soldier who takes the life of his superior, be he a commissioned, or a non-commissioned officer. Especially should it be meted out to offenders of the Native Army. In these days of promotion by selection and not by seniority, a great deal of heart-burning is caused in the Native Army by the new order of things. In the old days, where the senior man got his promotion whether he was fit or not, the procedure caused no ill feeling, for there was no *passing over*. It is impossible in these days of high pressure to promote men solely on account of their seniority, unless they are fitted for advancement in other respects as well. The commanding officer anxious to have a smart regiment naturally advances the best men he has under him, but he does so at the risk of creating a great deal of ill-feeling in those passed over. A man of morose disposition, soured by disappointment, broods over the slight and injustice done him (from his point of view); he thinks his *izzat* gone—taken away by the commanding officer who promoted his junior—and he considers the injury can only be wiped out by blood, and, worked up to a point of frenzy, he shoots his commanding officer. He can only be hanged for it. Hanging possesses no terrors for him—he was present at the military execution of Private A, and it was nothing, a kick or two in the air, and all was over. The blowing away from a gun cannot be but more impressive, and must strike terror into every one's heart, as it did into those of the mutineers of 1857. It is only right that Government should protect commanding officers, who, in furthering the interests of the army, expose themselves to all sorts of personal risks, and this protection, I venture to think, can best be afforded by ordering for every aggravated military crime, the blowing away from a gun of the murderer."

At a time when jurists are seriously discussing the desirability of abolishing capital punishment altogether, the above effusion, which a journal like the *Pioneer* sees reason to publish, affords a telling commentary on the progress India has made in humanity. All offenders who kill their superior officers are not alike in the eyes of "Dynamite." The European Private may escape with hanging. It is only the dusky Sepoy that is to be blown away from the mouth of a cannon. Probably, the European Private shooting his officer for a slight, intentional or fancied, has some sort of right to do so. Only the native soldier who acts similarly is to be reserved for a severer fate. "Dynamite," however, does not know the Sepoy. To the latter, hanging is a worse form of death than the soldierly death which the cannon inflicts. The Sepoy is no coward where mere death is concerned. His religion, however, makes him a coward. Hanging inflicts a death that his religion condemns, if he be a Hindu. The Mussalman also considers hanging as a very sneaking mode of exit from the world.

LORD William Beresford figures in the papers in connection with a criminal cause. The complainant is one Damodar Dass, whose allegation is that the defendant, at the Amritsar Railway station, used "the most offensive, insulting, and abusive language" to him, and finally struck him two blows on the face. The reason, as assigned by the complainant, was that defendant believed his servant's fingers had been injured by complainant at the Mian Mir station. The Deputy Commissioner of Ludhiana, in whose Court the complaint has been filed, made a reference, under section 185 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, to the Calcutta High Court. Justices Beverley and Banerjee having differed, Mr. Justice O'Kinealy was appointed by the Chief Justice as the third Judge to dispose of the reference. It has been decided that no ground exists for the reference under the section quoted. The papers have accordingly been directed to be returned to the Deputy Commissioner to deal with the case as he likes.

The complainant is reported to have said in course of his statement on oath, that "he bore the insult with great difficulty, and did not take the law in his own hands." Supposing that the defendant did treat the complainant in the manner described, it would have been the best thing if the complainant had not been so meek. To come to Court after suffering an unprovoked assault, which every one, when opposed man to man, ought to be capable of avenging on the spot, is scarcely dignified. Even a gentle slap on the cheek, returned for the heaviest blow, would, under such circumstances, teach more than a fine of Rs. 10 or 20. Some years back a very big official, who often lost his temper, maltreated his duftry. The latter, a Mussulman of spirit, inflicted some hard blows in return on his assailant. The official, from that time, became as meek as a lamb. Instead of punishing the duftry by dismissal, he rewarded him for his independence and always acknowledged him as a benefactor. An eminent advocate of the Supreme Court, a terror to all, in or out of Court, was similarly brought round by his Bengali "Baboo" to whom he was ever after grateful, even in retirement.

THE Social Puritans of the City, under the ægis of the Puritanical Governor, made a move to purge it of its Social Evil. The Commissioner of Police, belonging to a different School, set his face against any new law which could alone summarily clear the metropolis of the necessary Evil. But the reformers proving superior, a Bill has been introduced in the Bengal Legislative Council empowering the Governor and the Police Commissioner to suppress the evil. The Bill does not propose to eradicate it, but only to punish touting. "Any police officer, above the rank of native constable, and such other officer as the Local Government or the Commissioner of Police may specially appoint in that behalf, may arrest without warrant any person, who in his sight and in a public place solicits any other person to commit an act of immorality, if the name and address of such person be unknown to him, and cannot be ascertained by him then and there." The punishment for such solicitation is a fine not exceeding fifty rupees or imprisonment, with or without hard labour, for any period not exceeding eight days.

REIS & RAYYET.

Saturday, January 26, 1895.

SIR TRIVULLUR MUTHUSAWMY IYER.

THERE quietly passed away, at three in the morning of Friday the 25th January, a great Indian in the person of Sir Trivullur Muthusawmy Iyer, K.C.I.E., the native Judge of the Madras High Court. He had been in indifferent health and was about to go on leave when, on the 15th instant, after leaving Court, he felt a pain in his legs. That pain developed into erysipelas and ended his life. He was conscious till the last moment and died a quiet and peaceful death, as he had lived a simple and unostentatious life, while respected by those who knew him.

He was born on the 28th January, 1832. After passing the B. L. examination of the Madras University, he entered the public service at the age of 22, in 1854, as Record Keeper in the Collector's Office at Tanjore. After this initiation in the revenue department, he was transferred to the educational as Deputy Inspector of Schools, in the district of Tanjore, South Arcot. It was not till May 1857, however, that he was put into his proper line, the judicial, when he became District Munsiff of three Taluqs in the same District. There he made such a mark that he was selected by the Governor Sir Charles Trevelyan as a member of the Inam Commission charged with the delicate and responsible duty of resuming or assessing with a quit rent grants of rent-free lands. After a labour of two years on the Commission, he was made a Deputy Collector and continued in the revenue service in charge of four taluqs till the year 1865, when he became Principal Sudder Amin of Mangalore. In three years more he was a Presidency Magistrate for the city of Madras. From the Police he was drafted to the Small Cause Court. Having thus, in various capacities in different departments, qualified himself for the last and the highest place open to a Native of the country and given evidences of his legal acumen, he was selected an officiating Judge of the Madras High Court in July 1878, which he so much adorned. He was confirmed in the post in 1883. With his elevation to the High Court Bench he was created a Companion of the Indian Empire and for his eminence on that Bench, he was subsequently made a Knight Commander of the same Most Eminent Order.

The Indian Association for the Cultivation of Science.

210, Bow-Bazar Street, Calcutta.

(Session 1894-95.)

Lecture by Mr. B. Chaudhuri, B. A., B. Sc., on Monday, the 28th Inst., at 5-30 P. M. *Subject:* Biology—Past History of Animals and their Geographical Distribution.

Lecture by Dr. Nilratan Sarkar, M. A., M. D., on Wednesday, the 30th Inst., at 5-30 P. M. *Subject:* Chemical Physiology—General Review of the Protoids.

Lecture by Mr. B. Chaudhuri, B. A., B. Sc., on Saturday, the 2nd Feb., at 4 P. M. *Subject*: Practical Biology—Frog (continued).

Lecture by Mr. B. Chaudhuri, B. A., B. Sc., on Saturday, the 2nd Feb., at 5 P. M. *Subject:* General Biology—The theory of Evolution.

Admission Fee, Rs. 4 for Physics, and Rs. 4 for Chemistry; Rs. 6 for both Physics and Chemistry; Rs. 4 for Physiology; Rs. 4 for General Biology; Rs. 6 for complete course of Physiology and Biology. The charge for a single lecture is 2 Annas.

MAHENDRA LAL SIRCAR, M.D.,
Honorary Secretary.

January 26, 1895.

Sir Trivullur Muthusawmy Iyer was a true Dharmavatar—an embodiment of Justice. He was not only the ornament of his own Court, but his judgments commanded respect in the courts of the other Presidencies as well. His European colleagues had the highest admiration for his character and sound knowledge and exposition of law, and wondered if any of his judgments were not upheld by the Privy Council. Of the Indians who have sat on the Benches of the several High Courts, the name of Sir Trivullur Mathusawmy Iyer will be longest remembered.

All the Courts at Madras were closed yesterday to mark their sense of the loss occasioned by that death. Mr. Justice Shephard lamented the death as that of a Judge of great capacity for taking pains, of extreme scrupulousness in work, of wide and varied knowledge of law, and of an unswerving sense of justice and firmness.

Who is to be the next Native Judge of the Madras High Court? Dewan Bahadur S. Subramania Iyer has already officiated in the place, and every eye points to him after dropping the sad tear for the death that makes the place vacant.

THE SHUFFLING TARIFF POLICY.

MANCHESTER has not been appeased after all. The excise duty upon Indian cotton does not sweeten the pill of the new tariff. Mammonopolis is up in arms. It still harps on the cry of Protection. An organised agitation is being set up against the re-imposition of the cotton duties. The timid policy of March last has thus been discomfited. It has now been abandoned without pleasing any party. It is thus that injustice always pays itself, and well were it if the Government took the lesson to heart.

As to the talk of Protection, who does not know that it is all moonshine? As between Lancashire with all her resources of civilization, her wealth and art and knowledge, on the one hand, and poor India, on the other, just stepping on an industrial career in imitation of the Western people, the suggestion is absurd. And it is not we only who say this. The Finance Minister himself has shown how unjust is the clamour. After a thorough enquiry into the condition of the cotton industry in Bombay, Sir James Westland has put on record a minute which completely exposes the hollowness of the cry of Protection. The Indian mills work at great disadvantages which more than outweigh a small 5 per cent. duty on the English imports. These disadvantages arise from the cost of machinery which has to be all imported from England, from freight, packing, insurance, building and erecting, cost of European supervision, cost of coal which lies next door to Manchester, including depreciation of machinery, which is much greater in India, and the greater cost, in the long run, under the head of wages. These are drawbacks of a serious character enough to entitle the Indian industry to the most liberal fiscal treatment. And they are not all. The products of these mills do not actually enter into any competition with those of Lancashire. Our yarns are scarcely higher than 30*s*., Indian cotton being unsuitable for higher counts, while the import of American cotton is out of the question. In the face of these facts, it is a mere fiction to talk of Indian competition with Manchester and of Indian protection against her.

Admitting, however, for argument's sake, that there was such a thing as Indian competition, the proposals

of the Indian Government of a countervailing excise duty of 3½ per cent., and of the line of taxation being drawn above counts of 24, were liberal in the extreme. Certainly they should have satisfied the demands of the most insatiable of the so-called free-traders. But they are, it is evident, not enough. The Secretary of State goes further, and though he is not able to give reasons for his interference with proposals arrived at on the spot after careful examination of facts, he puts his foot down on a 3½ per cent. *ad valorem* duty and the line of 24s. as the right one. He draws the line lower down at 20 and levels up the duty to 5 per cent., on the ostensible ground of preventing the slightest possibility of protection, where there was no protection at all. Lord Elgin does not envy the responsibility of the man who imputes motives to the Secretary of State. Unfortunately, that responsibility sits so lightly on one's shoulders that it is not the Indian press alone that has ventured to make the imputation. The English press has in this been in perfect accord with the press of this country. The voice of the (London) *Daily News* has, in view of this unanimity, really degenerated into a whine. Surely, the measure was devised as compromise and, as such, it could not go farther, or be more on one side and less on the other. Well might the Secretary of State reckon upon the satisfaction of Manchester. But he was reckoning without his host, if he did so. While the world looked aghast at these tactics of a so-called Liberal Government—tactics professedly employed to propitiate the Manchester votes—what does Manchester do? Certainly, if there was a case in which a graceful acceptance of so much concession would have been becoming, it was here. But there is no grace, to say nothing of gratefulness. Her attitude is anything but creditable.

Such a state of things predicts real danger to India. The English Cabinet, Liberal or Conservative, have begun to rule India in the interests of party politics. The Supreme Legislative Council has enunciated a new doctrine of loyalty to the Cabinet and Parliament. It has been broadly asserted by the very highest political authority in India that, as Parliament and the Ministry are supreme, it is the duty of the Government of India to always accept, without serious protest, every measure that those authorities may recommend. It is useless to select for notice this or that individual member for the length to which he has gone in the matter of enforcing by his utterances this novel doctrine of official loyalty, when all the members of the Government have accepted it after deliberation. The non-official members have resisted it to a man. So far as soundness of argument is concerned, it is entirely on the side of the opposition. Lord Elgin has made the case worse by attempting to justify it. The attitude in one which, from its very nature, is incapable of justification. Parliament, through the Cabinet, appoints the members of the Supreme Council. That Council is certainly under the general control of the appointing authority. But it does not follow from this that it is bound to obey the behests of the appointing authority in the details of Indian administration. Either the Council is deliberative or it is not. If it has the power of deliberation, it goes without saying that it is certain to come at times to conclusions other than those of the appointing authority. If it is not deliberative, the sooner it is abolished the better for both India and England, for who would pretend to justify such a costly machinery if its duty extended to only carrying out the behests of the appointing authorities in England? It would not require an English nobleman, taken though he is from second class of English politicians, with a number of highly paid Councillors by his side, to only execute orders received, by the telegraph or the mail, from his masters at St. Stephen's or Downing Street. To pretend that the Viceregal Council is deliberative but that its deliberations are expected to be always in accord with the conclusions arrived at in Parliament or by the Secretary of State for India, would, on the face of it, be absurd. The only other plausible view is that, though vested with deliberative authority, it has not the power of initiation and, hence, while it is the Secretary of State's to initiate a particular measure relating to the Government of this country, the Viceroy with his Council is at liberty to work out its details. Even then the Indian Viceroy must take care to walk along the precise line chalked out for him. Judging, however, from the manner in which the Indian Tariff has been dealt with by the Viceroy and his Council, can even this much of freedom be said to be possessed by them? Was the Viceroy left any liberty to settle even those questions of detail that are connected with the Secretary of State's financial policy? Has he not been ordered to levy an excise duty on the particular quality of cotton yarns manufactured in India? If in the matter of the Tariff and the excise duty connected with it, the Secretary of State has been able to do what he has done, with the perfect acquiescence of the Viceroy and his Council, what is there to prevent the same authority from forcing some other measure upon India with the same loyal acquiescence on the part of those in India who were hitherto supposed to be responsible for the good government of this country?

The fact is, the position taken up by Lord Elgin and his Council is utterly untenable. To preserve the reputation of their independence they would be forced to admit that they have the right of independent action only in such questions as have not been thought out for them by the Secretary of State. The moment, however, the latter thinks out for them, their liberty of action is gone. The people of England are agitating for the abolition of the House of Lords as a second branch of their legislature. The House, however, and its friends have adduced many cogent arguments for showing the error of the agitation. Here in India, although nobody has yet begun the agitation for the abolition of the Supreme Legislature, yet that Legislature, through its own members, has given the world abundant grounds for its immediate dissolution.

Letters to the Editor.

DR. SAMBHU CHUNDER MOOKERJEE.

Sir,—Mr. F. H. Skrine's second article, in the *National Magazine*, on this great journalist, reproduced in your columns, seems to me to be a very short one. I expected that Mr. Skrine would exhaustively deal with the subject with the fascination of his pen. The history of the origin and growth of the *Hindoo Patriot* of which Dr. Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee was an active constructor and supporter, should have been narrated at greater length. As Doctor Mookerjee corrected and improved the following lines about the history of the *Hindoo Patriot* in my biography of the Hon'ble K. D. Pal published in 1886, may I solicit the favour of your reproducing them in your columns?

"One Baboo Madhu Sudan Roy of Bara Bazar, who had a Press at Kalakur Street, first conceived the idea of starting a newspaper, and it was from his Press that the *Hindoo Patriot* was first issued in

the beginning of the year 1853.* The first Editors were the three well-known brothers of the Ghose family at Simla, viz., Babus Srinath Ghose, Girish Chunder Ghose, and Khetra Chundra Ghose. Babu Sreenath Ghose was then head clerk of the Calcutta Collectorate, under Mr. Arthur Grote, who has now retired. They were assisted now and then by Babu Hurish Chunder Mukherjee, a clerk in the Military Auditor General's office (now called the Military Comptroller General's office) on a monthly salary of Rs. 100. After 3 or 4 months, the brothers Ghose gradually severed their connection with the paper, and the entire task of editing thus fell on Hurish Chunder Mukherjee. In those dark days of the pre-University period of English Education in Bengal, the native journalist had uphill work to perform. He had no constituency to support and cheer him. The European community took no interest in Indian affairs, and native newspapers in English, however ably conducted, were little appreciated by the public. There were few in those days who could read English newspapers, and fewer still who could afford to pay for them. Even the better classes were apt to think that a paper edited by a native could not be up to the mark. Hence the circulation of the *Hindoo Patriot* was confined to a few native only, and received very little public support. The location of the office and the press in one of the back lanes of Bara Bazar, moreover stood in the way of its success.

The proprietor accordingly transferred it to a house in front of the well-known shop now situated at No. 12 Radha Bazar Street. He hoped also, by this removal to one of the busiest parts of the town, to secure printing orders. But this expedient failed to produce the desired effect, and the *Hindoo Patriot* was looked upon as a bad speculation. During this period of despondency, Hurish Chunder continued, without any remuneration, to edit the paper. He regarded it as a labour of love. No pecuniary prospect was necessary to keep alive the spirit of disinterestedness that was within him.

But a crisis arrived which threatened the very existence of the *Hindoo Patriot*. The paper did not pay; on the contrary, the losses incurred were great. The proprietor, impatient of an undertaking which offered no hopes of success, determined, after a few months, to dispose of the press and the paper to the Editor. Hurish had suffered great inconvenience in having to come to Radha Bazar every week and staying there all night. The offer was a reasonable one and it was formally accepted. We can form but a faint idea of the joy which must have thrilled through every nerve of the great *literateur*, as he formed his future plans. The *Hindoo Patriot* was to be his own; he could mould it as he liked! But the difficulties which beset his path were not to be easily overcome. He was a poor clerk, and the purchase of a press was far beyond his slender means. But Hurish was determined, and for once the poet was wrong when he sang:

'Oh, ever thus from childhood's hour,
I've seen my fondest hopes decay.'

By dint of the strictest economy, a sum of money sufficient to meet all demands was collected, and the purchase completed. The *Hindoo Patriot* passed into new hands, and Bengal, at least, has benefited by the change.

Having realized his grand object, Hurish Chunder secured the lease of a house at Bhowanipore near his own and had the press and office removed to it. The building stood on the road to Kalighat and opposite to Moulvi Habibul Hossein's mansion.† The ostensible proprietor was his brother Babu Haran Chunder Mukherjee, who was appointed manager. The annual subscription was then Rs. 10; but even at this rate the *Hindoo Patriot* had scarcely a hundred subscribers. It consisted of two sheets of a smaller size than the paper now issued, and was published by Babu Wooma Churan Dey. But as might be easily inferred, the 'get up' of the paper was not very satisfactory. With the removal of the press, however, to the neighbourhood of the late Sudder Dewany Adalut, its financial prospects became more assuring. The educated Bhowanipore public and the native gentlemen connected with the bar and the office of the Sudder Court, (who mostly resided in that neighbourhood) felt a sort of local interest and pride in the paper, and began to patronize it. At that time there was no other English weekly in Bengal, conducted by natives, except the *Hindoo Intelligencer*, edited by Babu Kashi Prosad Ghose; and the only journals of the same kind in the other Indian Presidencies were the *Madras Rising Sun*, and the *Hindu Harbinger* of Bombay. Amongst the earliest subscribers to the *Hindoo Patriot* was the well-known Indian statesman Mr. Sashia Shastri, now Regent of Puddocotta. From the year 1853 down to the close of the year 1855, Hurish Chunder conducted his paper with great ability, and at considerable sacrifice of time and money. In 1856 the Widow-Marriage question occupied much public attention and Hurish Chunder lent his powerful pen to the advocacy of reform. But though the independence with which the *Patriot* was conducted was not exactly calculated to secure the good will of the public---particularly the Indian public who, in matters of reform, are strongly conservative---the Editor never swerved from what he considered to be his path of duty. No consideration, however important, ever led him to sell his conscience, and notwithstanding the frequent pecuniary losses he had to bear, he uniformly refused to receive outside assistance, even when voluntarily offered by friends and admirers.

There are only two instances in which we find him breaking his resolution. It is said, that on one occasion the Patriotic zemindars Rajahs Protap Chunder Singh and Ishur Chunder Singh, of Paikpara, proposed to make him a grant of a comparatively large sum of money to reimburse his losses, and to enable him to improve the *Hindoo Patriot*. But nothing tempted, he declined the kind offer, thankfully yet firmly. When, however, the type showed progressive signs of decay and complaints began to pour in, that the broken type and numerous typographical errors unduly taxed the eye of the reader, he at last consented to receive the proffered aid. He knew that to maintain his own self-respect, as well as the independence of his paper, he must rely upon personal resources and his own high character. He valued his independence and honour more than anything else. That he was a man of the highest character and rare courage, is attested to by his colleagues still living, among whom stands first Babu Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee, Editor of *Reis and Rayyet*. As a journalist he published what he thought proper without regard to popularity or interest."

The above extract is long, but corrected as it was by Dr. Mookerjee himself, at my earnest and respectful request, it should be read along with Mr. Skrine's able article.

Mr. Skrine's allusion to the pamphlet the Doctor wrote in 1860 is somewhat incomplete. The Doctor having written the pamphlet indicting the policy of James Wilson, thought it most inopportune to publish it in India at that time, *i. e.*, immediately after the hurricane of the Sepoy Mutiny. The pamphlet was therefore sent to Mr. Malcolm Lewin, the famous second Judge of the Sudder Court of Madras, who was suspended by the Local Government together with two of his colleagues for having protested against the injustice done to the Hindus in cases between Christians and Hindus (*vide* my "Reminiscences and Anecdotes of Great Men of India, p. 87). Mr. Malcolm Lewin, than whom the Hindus had never a sincerer friend, was then in England, and it was this gentleman who, struck by its literary power, got it printed and published in London in that year.

As Editor of the *Samachar Hindusthani*, Dr. Mookerjee, by his writings, created enemies in official quarters, and the abrupt close of his career in the North-Western Provinces was not a little due to that circumstance.

As regards the short paragraph of Mr. Skrine describing Dr. Mookerjee's career at Moorshedabad, I have to remark that it is too concise to be of any use to the public. Mr. Skrine as a Government servant and a Civilian to boot is the last person to describe those intricate relations which Dr. Mookerjee had with the numerous English officials. It was Mr. Heely who saved Dr. Mookerjee from the intrigues of his enemies.

As regards Dr. Mookerjee's career in the Tipperah Raj, Mr. Skrine seems to have suppressed facts in regard to his relationship with the local political agents which I candidly confess could not be unfolded in a public journal without serious detriment to the reputation of those political officers.

In conclusion I hope Mr. Skrine will, in his next article, review at length the literary side of Dr. Mookerjee's character.

RAM GOPAL SANYAL.

Taltolla, January 21.

A PERMANENT SETTLEMENT FOR THE WHOLE OF INDIA.

DEAR SIR AND EDITOR,---I and many others have to thank the *Morning Post* of Allahabad for reproducing, in its issue of the 9th instant, Captain Arthur Banon's admirable speech at the recent meeting of the National Congress at Madras on the advisability of a new Permanent Settlement for the whole of the Indian Empire. Although agreeing with him as to the advantages of the suggested Settlement for the whole of India there is in my mind one reservation and that a most serious and insurmountable one. If such a law were once passed and sanctioned, would the Indian Government of the present or some future day be bound or compelled by any means whatsoever to keep their promises? The public, I feel confident, are well aware how for years and years the covetous and envious eyes of the Bengal and Behar officials have been fixed on the financial prosperity of the Zemindars of those provinces, and how they, with remeasurement and fresh record of rights, &c., &c., have been working underhand and endeavour-

* From the *Friend of India* of that year, it appears that the paper was first published in June 1853.

† I have been informed by a friend of Babu Hurish Chunder that before he purchased the Press from Babu Madhu Sudan Roy in 1858, he had transferred the office of his paper from 12 Radha Bazar to Bhownipore and published his paper from a private press whose name was, if I recollect aright, *Bidya Jana Gyan Sancharini*.

ing to the best of their abilities to upset Lord Cornwallis's promises and force on the Zemindars fresh liabilities.

But let us, for the sake of argument, surmise that the permanent settlement in Behar and Bengal is withdrawn in favour of a uniform and permanent settlement for the whole of the Indian Empire. Who is there in India, I ask, who would, after seeing the fate of the Famine Insurance Fund, for one instant put any faith on the solemn assurances of the Indian Government that a new and universal settlement would be permanent and final? If that Government could break the solemn assurances it has repeatedly made concerning the Famine Fund, it would not be wanting in pretexts when it suited its purposes to break its new covenant and promises.

Why is it that, as a rule, the Zemindars of Behar and Bengal are, comparatively speaking, so outspoken and independent, whilst the Taluqdars of the North-Western Provinces, Oudh and other parts of India are so cringing, so subservient and so time-serving? It is that in Bengal and Behar there is a permanent settlement, whereas in the North-Western Provinces, Oudh and other parts of India the temporary settlements make the Taluqdars, so to say, the slaves and tools of the Executive, and their Collectors, as I was once informed by a Commissioner of Berilly, "were kings in their own districts" and have the power to ruin them if they dare to oppose their wishes, if they do not lend them their elephants to go out shooting, and do not lay dâks and offer their carriages when the Burra Sahib wants the use of them and for the hire of which the said Burra Sahib receives travelling allowances from Government. It was this sort of thing which was the true and real cause of the Civil Service Commission of which, if I liked, "I could a tale unfold." but I will only partially disclose what I do know. Lord Randolph Churchill did not come out to India to pry into and expose the shortcomings of Government officials but he came out here as a sportsman to shoot with his own rifle a royal Bengal tiger. Whilst out here, and especially whilst in camp, being a man of great observation and a man of the world, he clearly perceived how the land lay, and what he did not understand was clearly and lucidly explained by an intelligent English-speaking landholder in a strictly private conversation. By what he had seen and by this conversation Lord Randolph Churchill came to the conclusion that reform was necessary, and on his return to England forced the Civil Service Commission on the Indian Government. How the scope of that Commission was curtailed is now a matter of history, but the credit will ever remain with Lord Randolph Churchill of being an honest and far-seeing statesman who did his best to secure for the people of India not only Government Reform but also considerable financial improvement for the Indian Empire.

India has been for years and years the milch cow of the British nation, and English statesmen at the head of affairs, for the sake of power and place, have not failed to milk her dry---even to the last drop---particularly for the benefit of the Covenanted Civil Service. Many members of that Service receive each a stipend of 4,000 rupees a month, and there are not few who make half a lac of rupees a year. Several draw 2,200 rupees a month, and they are many who are able to save quarter of a lac a year and this, exclusive of the pension of £1,000 per annum they earn after comparatively a few years' service.

The interests of India have, time and again, been wantonly sacrificed to England---not to the people of England but to and for the advantage of the individuals, the statesmen in power at the time being, to enable them to continue that power, and not for the good of the people of India themselves. I will, as an instance of this policy, take the destruction of the salt trade and manufacture on the coasts of Orissa and Bengal and parts of the Northern Coasts of the Madras Presidency. During the last few years of the rule of the Honorable East India Company---it was to the best of my recollection and belief during the years 1853-54 or -55, that the discussion was going on in Parliament concerning the renewing of the charter to the Company. To enable the Directors to secure a majority in the Lower House for the sanctioning of that charter it was found necessary to destroy the enormous manufacture of salt that was carried on in the Government Salt Golahs of Orissa and Bengal. Thus to satisfy the greed of a few mining and shipowning interests, hundreds, nay, thousands of poor hard-working men were thrown out of employment, men who used to supplement the cultivation of an acre or two of ground by salt manufacture for the Government of India, and who, after the suppression of the Salt Golahs, were prohibited with the ocean at their doors from manufacturing even salt enough to preserve the fish Providence supplied them with, on the pain and penalties of prosecution, fine and imprisonment, as was clearly proved by enquiries recently instituted by the Secretary of State for India at the instance of Lord Stanley of Alderley.

What happened to this charter? It did not last two years, but the salt industry of Bengal and Orissa, which had existed from the most ancient times, was destroyed for ever. The reason of the shippers and mine owners, particularly of the former, was that their vessels should not be sent out to India in ballast, that the salt exported from England would more than pay for its export and leave a good margin for profit, and the ships would return laden with country produce, the salt so imported would find a ready market throughout Bengal and Behar where its manufacture had been prohibited and declared contraband. But here again Providence is stepping in, for the salt trade is fast slipping out of British hands into those of German, *vide* the returns of the Excise Department of Calcutta of salt shipped from German ports so that now one can say that the Bengal and Orissa salt trade has been sacrificed for the profit and benefit of Germans.

At this very moment we have the strange anomaly of not only the people of India but Anglo-Indians of all classes entreating to be taxed, but for sooth such taxation of the Indian people may remotely injure the interests of the Manchester manufacturer and so weaken the prospect of those in power at the next general elections. Can history shew a parallel to such a political farce as that of a nation demanding to be taxed and a Government refusing to tax them?

There is not the slightest doubt that a Permanent Settlement for the whole of the Indian Empire is a great and glorious conception. There is not the slightest doubt but a permanent settlement would, where it does not at present exist, double, ave treble, the actual value of land, that it would throw open the whole country to increased agricultural enterprise and bring thousands and millions of pounds sterling to be invested in India from Great Britain, for with the present insecurity of temporary settlements who dare invest their capital in land? Or, if it is so invested, who dare increase their cultivated area or improve the irrigation of their crops? If they do they will find at the end of a quarter of a century's hard work that the settlement officer will come down and they will be mulcted at the very least fifty per cent. of their annual profits. This is no exaggeration. To corroborate what I state I give an extract from a letter from a Zemindar in a district in the North Western Provinces under settlement, dated 7th January 1895:---

"The weather though now and again cloudy has been all one could desire and the crops are now looking very promising. The recent showers, however, have not been altogether an unmixed blessing to us for we hear from ---pore where the settlement operations are still going on, that the rain there has so changed the appearance of the fields that land which formerly would have been registered of the 3rd class (settlement nomenclature) is now being entered in the 2nd class and even in some cases as 1st class land, which as you know means an equivalent enhancement in the yearly land revenue."

All honest statesmen will, I feel perfectly certain, agree with me that it will be quite time enough to extend the Permanent Settlement to the whole of the Indian Empire, when the Indian Government has learnt to act fairly and justly and not to violate its most solemn promises, or if such Settlement is secured by an Act of Parliament.

Longview, Derah Dhoon,
January 10, 1895.

ANDREW HEARSEY, *Captain*,
Late H. M. Service.

THE INDIAN MEDICAL CONGRESS.

SIR,---Your leader on the Indian Medical Congress has produced an impression on those who really know the actual state of helplessness of the medical profession. With all their vaunted pride, most of the medical men do not know what they are doing when treating a case. They follow the antiquated routine practice of subservience to their predecessors in prescribing, whether the case be an ordinary or a difficult one. They generally follow the plausible *argumentum ad hominem* and think themselves perfectly justified in all their actions. Intellectuality is lost in the gloom of official or non official consultations. Old Indian practitioners in their advanced experience do not think it a shame to call a European medical man just out of his teens, for consultation.

The practice of medicine is generally quackery, or, if better, empiricism. The reign of law is ignored and some have the impudence to ridicule the existence of laws in medicine. Laplace and Newton have been honoured, but their illustrious countrymen of the present generation especially take delight in disacknowledging those laws. The universe is guided by laws. Only medicaments, one would suppose from observation of what is called orthodox practice, do not operate by laws on diseased organisms.

The laws of antipathy, homœopathy and isopathy which are handed down to us from the time of Charaka, and successively acknowledged by Hippocrates, Galen, &c, are to be ignored. Dr. Lauder Brunton said that the art is in an unprogressive state but does it not occur

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that there is even retrogression?

"Evolution ever climbing after some ideal good,

And reversion ever dragging evolution in the mud."

This sanhedrim of pedants is essentially a self-laudation society. An Elliottic dream has been realized. Dr. Harvey, unlike his great predecessor, the discoverer of the circulation of blood, has found out a rich Utopian plateau. Dr. Hart was simply heartless in his crusade against pilgrimages. The cholera germ has at last found a good soil in his brain. But Lord Elgin came to the rescue; otherwise it would have been a tale of sanitation with violence. After all, this was a conclave of "tongue sters" to display their united wisdom.

But, it may be said for these medical worthies that they do not come to help suffering humanity. They have nothing to do with the poor living by the side of the rich. Such is their declaration. They advise only those who can pay for their own comforts, and that advice must be paid for in coin. As medical men, they have nothing to do with a world of filth and squalor and poverty. Themselves liking "champagne and the Order of the Bath," they live for those that drink champagne and have their eyes turned towards that distinction. Absolutely, by their faith and learning they are for men who can pay and not for those who are to be paid. So all their thoughts are concentrated on their patrician clients.

As to the expression of your opinion against the unprogressive state of pathology, you are somewhat inaccurate. The pathology of diseased organs has vastly progressed, but not so the general pathology, especially pertaining to functional derangements or where the lesions leave behind insufficient mark. It is not in the pathological progress that the defect can be found. But it is in the rational application of medicine, the scope of the laws by which medicines act, to the diseased organs or organisms lies the halting point. There a scrutinizing observation not of an ordinary character is wanted. Experience on the solid basis of trustworthy facts can only bring forth the desired result. It is not in the administration of compounds but of single medicines that experiment can proceed.

HEM CHANDRA RAY CHAUDHIRI, L. M. S.

VASUDEVA VIJAYAM.

Vasudeva Vijayam, revised and enlarged by Ráma Nátha Tarkaratna. The Vasudeva Vijayam professes to be a Mahakavya. If a Mlechchha may presume to give an opinion, Pandit Rama Natha Tarkaratna has succeeded admirably in catching the spirit of the compositions which go by the name of Mahakavya or Epics. The style of these poems is somewhat artificial, and perhaps a little too flowery for Western tastes. But there seem to be indications that our author has dipped into European poetry. Some of the stanzas are certainly very beautiful, and the whole poem is carefully finished and polished. The *limæ labor* has not been spared. The result is a work which, we cannot help thinking, must meet with the approval of the author's learned countrymen.

The subject of the poem is the war between Krishna and Indra for the possession of the Parijata tree, which was produced by Krishna when, with the help of the Dityas, he churned the sea of milk, using the mountain Mandara as a churning stick. Narada, who is often represented in Indian poetry as loving to stir up strife, comes and represents to Krishna that Indra had acted wrongly in carrying off this tree which Krishna had been the main agent in producing (IInd Canto, stanza 20). He accordingly tries to induce Krishna to re-demand the tree, and produces one marvellously fragrant flower from it, which he had obtained by propitiating Indra's gardeners. For, as the Sage Narada states, in the most pathetic way, Indra, though entreated over and over again, had refused to give him a single flower. However, Krishna is deaf to the suggestions of Narada. He observes, "Since I, the younger brother of Indra, am obedient to his orders, and very much attached and devoted to him, when the blameless one shall be pleased with me, he will no doubt then of his own accord give me all." But Narada "the strife-maker" is not so easily disposed of. He determines to work through female influence. He instigates a lady named Kalavati to deal with Satyabhama, one of the wives of Krishna. Kalavati informs her that Narada had brought the flower in order to present it to her, and that Krishna had snatched it away, and placed it in the hair of Rukmini, a rival wife. Satyabhama, or Satya, as she seems to be called by the poet, is irritated by the *spretæ injuria formæ*, and has an attack of "nerves." After sandal-wood and the other remedies usually employed in these cases have failed, Krishna is sent for. He at last takes a mighty oath, "If I do not easily disperse the hosts of the gods, and conquer the monarch of the gods by the might of my valour, and bring back, O fair one, the Parijata tree, may you be, O lovely one, estranged from me as much as you please." Accordingly Krishna lays the matter before his council, and an ambassador is sent. But Indra, the king of the gods, refuses to surrender the tree, and Krishna marches against him. After the army of Indra has been reduced to straits, Krishna and Indra meet in single combat; but just as Krishna is about to hurl his terrible discus, Brahma intervenes as a peace-maker.

Matters are arranged amicably. "Indra gave to the enemy of Madhu (Krishna) the Parijata-tree, the ornament of the city of the gods, that fulfils all the wishes of petitioners, as if it were his own manifested glory." The principal charm of the book lies in its descriptions. That of Krishna's city of Dvaraka in the first book, and of the sunrise in the fifth, may be instanced. But Indian scenery, Indian vegetation, and the conditions of Indian life altogether are hardly intelligible to Europeans. European poets deal in roses and nightingales, and Hindu poets in lotuses and Brahmany ducks. The moon befriends one kind of lotus, and the sun another. All these allusions are perfectly natural, but they make thorny the path of the translator.

We cannot take leave of Pandit Rama Natha Tarkaratna, without congratulating him on the skill with which he wields the ancient classical language of India. Probably few of our English pandits could, in these degenerate modern days, write a poem of equal length in Virgilian hexameters without leaving "Priscian a little scratched."—C. H. TAWNEY, in the *Imperial and Asiatic Quarterly Review and Oriental and Colonial Record*. January, 1895.

DEAFNESS An essay describing a really genuine Cure for Deafness, Singing in Ears, &c., no matter how severe or long-standing, will be sent post free.—Artificial Ear-drums and similar appliances entirely superseded. Address THOMAS KEMPE VICTORIA CHAMBERS, 19, SOUTHAMPTON BUILDINGS, HOLBORN, LONDON.

THE HANDFUL OF THINGS WE KNOW.

SEVERAL years ago an American humorist and poet published some verses called "Little Breeches" This was an odd name given to a very small boy who was caught out in a tremendous snowstorm, and finally found in some hay quite a distance from the house. However the boy got there bothered everybody to explain. It was certain he never could have walked. So his father said the angels must have done it; "they just stooped down and toted him to where it was safe and warm, he said." The poetry about it (supposed to have been written by the youngster's father) starts off in this way:—

I don't go much on religion,
I never ain't had no show;
But I've a middling tight grip, sir,
On the handful of things I know.

That's it; *the handful of things we know*. There aren't many of 'em, but there are a few. And one of them is this: That for a hundred results there is only one cause. Nature develops and makes differences; never a new force.

Here, for example, is an incident which shows our meaning. About Christmas, 1889, Mr. E. B. Wright had an attack of influenza. Previous to this he had always been strong and hearty. Well, he got over the influenza; still, it had given him (as he says) "a shake." After this he got along fairly well, until February of this year (1892) when the influenza attacked him again. This time the malady "meant business." Nearly every bone and muscle in his body ached like sore teeth. His skin was hot and dry, and to bed he was obliged to go. For sixteen days he was under a doctor. At the end of that time he found himself alive and that was about all you could say for him.

In his letter he goes on to tell what happened next. "I had a foul taste in the mouth," he says, "and my teeth and tongue were covered with a thick slimy phlegm. My wife says my tongue was like an oyster shell, and I'm sure it was rough as nutmeg grater. What I ate, which wasn't much gave me pain in the chest and sides. After a mouthful or two I felt full and blown out, and I used to swell to a great size. By-and-by a hacking cough set in and my breathing got short and quick. At night I lay for hours gasping for breath, and often coughed so I was afraid I should burst a blood vessel. I got weaker and weaker and *was like broken-winded horse* The doctor said it was asthma, but he wasn't able to relieve it. Although I live only two minutes' walk from the factory where I work, I had to stop and rest on my way many a time.

"Thus matters went with me until June, 1892. Then one day I took up the *Essex Newsman*, and read of a man living at Earsham, near Bungay, having been cured by Mother Seigel's Curative Syrup. I got some of this medicine from the International Tea Company, Braintree. After a few doses my breathing grew easier, and by keeping on with the Syrup my food soon digested, the cough left me, and I gained strength. I am now as strong as ever, can eat anything, and walk for miles. I am a brushmaker, and work at the factory of Messrs. John West and Sons, High Street, Braintree, and have lived in this town over forty years. (Signed) E. B. WRIGHT, Sandpit Road, Braintree, Essex, August 23rd, 1892"

Now let us see how this illustrates the proposition we started out with. For almost three years Mr. Wright was ill with what seemed like a series of different diseases. He had the influenza twice, the asthma once, and another disease which he gives no name to even if he recognised it. Look for a moment at the variety and incongruity of the pains and troubles he mention, and he doesn't describe them all, either. You would fancy he had half a dozen ailments at least. Yet he had *but one*—indigestion and dyspepsia—of which all his bodily disturbances (influenza included—a blood disease) were symptoms. all came out of the stomach, and when Seigel's Syrup set *that* right the others quietly departed.

What, then, is *one thing* of "the handful of things we know?" Answer: That nearly all sorts of diseases are really symptoms of indigestion and dyspepsia, and that Mother Seigel's Curative Syrup cures it.

Double that fact up in your fist and hold on to it tight.

PREVENTION OF SMALL-POX.

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All residents on the infected premises who are above seven years of age and who have been vaccinated in infancy and all children below that age who do not bear good vaccination marks should be revaccinated.

This, if done properly and in time, will undoubtedly protect from the disease.

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Vaccine Station.	Section &Wards.	Days of Vaccination.	Hours.
Town.	Section.		
1 Chitpore Dispensary ...	A & B	M. W. & F.	7 to 9 A.M.
2 Mayo Hospital	E & G	T. & Sat.	
3 39 Beadon St.	C, D & F	M. W. & F.	
4 Medical College Hospital	H & I	T. Th. & Sat.	
5 Municipal Office ...	J,K, L,M	M. W. & F.	
6 59 Ripon Street Dispensary	N,O,P,Q	T. Th. & Sat.	
7 Hastings Municipal Office	R	M. & F.	
Amalgamated Suburbs.	Ward		
8 Entally Municipal Office	19	M. W. & F.	7 to 10 A.M.
9 Bhowampore Municipal Office ...	22		
10 Alipore Municipal Office	23		
11 Bantapooker Municipal Office ...	20	T. Th. & Sat.	
12 Ballygunge Municipal Office ...	21		
13 Kalderpore Municipal Office	24		
14 Watgunge Municipal Office	25		

Persons desirous of having vaccination or re-vaccination performed in their own houses will have to apply to the vaccine station of their respective wards (on the working days and hours of such station), or to the Superintendent of Vaccination, Municipal Office, or to the Deputy Superintendent of Vaccination, No. 39, Beadon Street, one day previously, and to pay a fee of 4 annas for each vaccination for which they will obtain a printed receipt and the conveyance, &c., charges for the lymph child not exceeding Rs. 2.

Parties wishing to be vaccinated from the calf at their own houses will have to pay conveyance charge for the calf in addition to the fees (4 annas per head.)

W. J. SIMPSON, M.D.,
2nd January 1895. Health Officer.

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AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

VOL. XIV. CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 1895. WHOLE NO. 661.

CONTEMPORARY POETRY.

THE WEDDING DAY.

I AM married! I am married!
Weep, ye flirting maids of Cam;
The deed is done, the point is carried—
What a lucky dog I am!
What a pleasant dream my life is!
(Best of dreams because 'tis true!)
What a charming thing a wife is!
(I almost wish that I had *two!)*

Noble brow of thought and feeling—
Lips whence music breathes her spell—
Cheeks whose blushes are revealing
What that music dares not tell—
Eyes, in whose blue depths divine, oh
Purest spirits deign to lodge—
All these beauties now are mine, oh
Marriage is a splendid dodge!

I'm so glad I fixed on Nancy!
Laura speaks so loud and quick;
Caroline quite took my fancy
But her ankles are too thick;
Jane should be an hair's breadth shorter,
Helen is a size too small,
Rose I'm sure drinks too much porter,
Fanny is too thin and tall.

They all loved me—how intensely
Maiden ladies only know—
Oh, I pity them immensely,
They have much to undergo!
Such a devotion, such attention,
Whispers, blushes, smiles, and tears,
But 't is hardly fair to mention
All they do, poor little dears!

Nancy's hit the proper medium,
(What the French call *juste milieu,*)
Who could feel a moment's tedium,
Sportive Nancy, when with you?—
Gentle, tender, soft, complying,
Yet not wanting intellect,
Oh my every glance relying,
Looking up with sweet respect.

How I wooed her, how I pressed her,
By one little word to bless,
On my bended knees addressed her,
Till the darling whispered "yes;"
Half a dozen men of fashion
All rejected for my sake;
To reward her soft compassion
What a husband I will make!

When she plays I'll turn the leaves, and
When she works I'll hold the skein,
Soothe her kindly if she grieves, and
If she laughs I'll laugh again;
Read aloud in rainy weather,
Give her up the easy chair,
Never smoke when we're together,
Nor at other women stare.

Every moment play the lover,
Let her have a female friend,
Never sleep when dinner's over,
Make her presents without end,
Pay her bills when she requires it,
Fill her purse with joyful haste,
Cut my hair if she desire it,
(But I know she's too much taste!)

Happy then, thrice happy we, love
Thus to share so bright a fate;
Married life to us shall be, love,
One delightful *tête-à tête!*
Turn we from the world's caressing,
From its pleasure, pomp, and pride,
To enjoy life's dearest blessing,
At our own beloved fireside!

—*Sharpe's Magazine.*

55. An essay describing a really genuine Cure for Deafness, Singing in Ears, &c., no matter how severe or long-standing, will be sent post free.—Artificial Ear-drums and similar appliances entirely superseded. Address THOMAS KEMPE, VICTORIA CHAMBERS, 19, SOUTHAMPTON BUILDINGS, HOLBORN, LONDON.

WEEKLYANA.

THE new French Cabinet is composed of:—
President of the Council and Minister of Finance, M. Ribot, Deputy.
Minister of Justice, M. Trarieux, Senator.
Minister of Foreign Affairs, M. Hanotaux, Minister Plenipotentiary.
Minister of the Interior, M. Leygues, Deputy.
Minister of Public Instruction, M. Poincaré, Deputy.
Minister of Public Works, M. Dupuy Dutemps, Deputy.
Minister of Commerce, M. André-Lebor, Deputy.
Minister of Agriculture, M. Gadaux, Deputy.
Minister for the Colonies, M. Nantemps, Deputy.
Minister of War, General Zurunden.
Minister of Marine, Admiral Besuard.

Subscribers in the country are requested to remit by postal money orders, if possible, as the safest and most convenient medium, particularly as it ensures acknowledgment through the Department. No other receipt will be given, any other being unnecessary and likely to cause confusion.

MR. H. H. Johnston, C. B., High Commissioner of East Afrcia, has come to India. His object, as he said to an interviewer,

"is to arrange with Government for the continuation of the system by which 200 Sikhs are allowed to volunteer for service in British East and Central Africa for the purpose of suppressing and keeping in check the odious slave trade. Originally one hundred men were despatched some years ago, they were followed by further rainforcements, since which there has been no renewal. The term of service of the second batch is up during the present summer, and I am desirous of inducing fresh Volunteers to come and fill their places, but I do not wish it to be supposed that I am in any way proposing to act the part of a recruiting Sergeant, or that anything more extensive in the military line is in contemplation. I am also desirous of visiting old soldiers of the first batch who have returned to India, the value of whose services has, I am glad to say, been lately testified to in most signal manner by the award, with her most gracious Majesty's sanction, of the African war medal for their campaigns against the Arab slave traders."

To the question, Have you any other object in visiting India? There is a notion abroad that you intend advocating the colonisation of East Africa by Indians, Mr. Johnston continued :—

"Yes, it is true. This is one of the objects that I have in view, but I shall not take any positive action in the matter, but rather let the stream that has already begun to set in towards Africa continue to flow naturally. I am certainly in love with the Sikhs, and would be only too glad if a few more would come over They get on admirably with the Africans. They will thrash them one day in battle and the next day shake hands in the good old manly fashion of the knights of the Middle Ages. Moreover, we are greatly in need of population, while India appears to teem with it. It would also be far preferable, if there is to be an immigration of the Hindus, that it should occur towards our territory rather than Natal where, owing to the greater prevalence of Whites, they are not wanted. Moreover, our climate is more suited to them than that of Natal."

In reply to further questions, Mr. Johnston stated that

"Central East Africa had become sparsely populated owing to the slave trade, and that the part administered by the British Government was about the size of England and Wales. As an instance of the successful colonisation by the Indians mentioned, some years ago, the lower Shire, which is as big as an English county, was a blank and hopeless marsh, apparently useless, and almost uninhabited. There came to it Khojas and Memons from the Bombay side, and like a miracle trade appeared, and the Negro immigration increased so much from 1,000 to 10,000 that a Magistrate and Collector had to be appointed, and in time all other concomitants of a prosperous settlement. It is now paying its way. The country is big enough to hold both the Negroes and Hindus, and I should be glad to see the latter dealing with the other low-lying lands in the same way."

Have you any other object in seeing India, Mr. Johnston?

"Yes, I want to study its forms of administration and imitate them in British East Africa. It seems to me that there are only two forms of Colonial Government possible. The first responsible Government of the White Colony, and then a benevolent despotism of the tropical country inhabited by coloured races. India belongs to the latter category, and some day British East Africa will develop its Government services similar to what you have in India at present. We have to begin to walk before we can run, and I want to learn some lessons in the art of walking from the inspection of your Indian methods of Government."

Shall you make a long stay in this country?

"No. I intend visiting part of Northern India and shall leave Calcutta about the middle of March."

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THE Arms Act is being worked with a vigour which is more humiliating than the law itself. When the sister law—the Vernacular Press Act was repealed, the Arms Act, though allowed to disfigure the statute book, was made less galling by freer exemptions under it and altogether a mild working. For some time, its application is being rigorously enforced. From time to time we hear of such persecutions. Only this week the Bengal High Court released one Pabun Sheik from prison who had been sent there for one year, by the Deputy Magistrate of Perozepore, for possessing a gun and obstructing a search of his house for the arm, and in addition fined him Rs. 60. The man was in jail for four months and a half. The High Court remarking that the sentence was altogether in excess of the offence committed, reduced the term of imprisonment to the period already worked out and remitted the fine.

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THE appeal of Raja Jogendernath Roy of Natore will be taken up on the 13th February. The hearing was first fixed for the 4th February, but on application of the complainant, Baboo Gungagobind Sircar, it has been further postponed for the convenience of his counsel Mr. Hill.

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THE charge of wrongful detention of title deeds made by Denobundoo Podder against Janokey Nath Roy, in the Calcutta Police Court, has been thrown out by the Magistrate Nawab Syed Ameer Hossain. The case for the prosecution was that Denobundoo was already in debt to Janokey Nath and, wanting more money, deposited some title deeds for a fresh loan. Baboo Roy would neither advance the money wanted nor return the title deeds to enable the raising of the loan elsewhere, but wrongfully held them as a security for the amount due to him. The Magistrate was not convinced that the title deeds were deposited for the purpose stated. In making the order, the Magistrate said that pressure of business had prevented him from writing out a detailed judgment, but he would do so later on.

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SYED Ahmed, not the Allyghur Knight but a Bahadoor still who delights to call himself by the unmeaning name of Delawar Hossain, stationed as a Deputy Magistrate, at Alipore, has been appointed, in succession to the late Nawab Meer Mahomed Ali, a member of the Parmanent Committee for the supervision of Mahomedan Marriage Registrars appointed under Act I (B. C.) of 1876, and of Kazis appointed under Act XII of 1880.

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MR. James Nicholson Staurt, of Messrs. Balmer Lawrie and Co, having retired from India, has resigned his seat as a member of the Bengal Legislative Council. He was also a member of the Calcutta Port Trust. The Bengal Chamber of Commerce has elected Mr. J. G. Dickson, senior member of Messrs. Gladstone Wyllie and Company to the vacant place on the Board of the Trust. In this connection, *Capital* points out that all the representatives of the Chamber represent only the ship-owning interest.

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IN Colinga, a native girl, while carrying an open kerosine lamp, her clothes catching fire, was burnt to death. These lamps are a nuisance and a disaster, but their numbers are increasing on account of their cheapness.

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ANOTHER girl, in the Northern Division of the town, while picking out pieces of coke from a huge pile, the pile collapsing, was entombed to death.

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FOR clandestinely removing a number of blankets, the head jemadar of the Alipore Lunatic Asylum, has been sentenced, by the Hon'ble Abdul Jubbar Khan Bahadur, to one month's rigorous imprisonment.

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THE Home Department has ruled that the expenses for burying paupers dying within Cantonment limits are to be borne by the Cantonment Funds, while those of disposing of such dying out of those limits will be defrayed by the Magistrate of the District. What has been the cost—in stationery, postage, the pay of those consulted, &c &c.,—in arriving at this decision?

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MR. H. W. C. Carnduff officiates as Deputy Secretary in the Legislative Department of the Government of India, while Mr. T. W. Richardson acts for him as Registrar on the Appellate Side of the High Court, Bengal.

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BABU Pran Kumar Das, Personal Assistant to the Commissioner of the Patna Division, and Babu Chunder Narain Sing, Personal Assistant to the Commissioner of the Bhagulpur Division, change places.

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MR. C. A. W. Fordyce, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Dacca, has obtained leave for one month and twenty-five days from the 18th January, to fight his calumniators.

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A TELEGRAM from St. Petersburg, dated Jan. 10, says :—

"The trial has just concluded, before the District Court of the Province of Viatka, of eleven persons belonging to the peculiar local sect known as Vottaks. These people, who are still addicted to idolatry, not only sacrifice animals to their gods, but even on occasion human beings, in order to propitiate the wrath of Kourbane, as they name the Spirit of Evil. From the evidence given at the trial, it appears that the accused induced a certain beggar man, named Matriounine, to visit the house of Moses Dimitrieff, one of the prisoners. After making the beggar drunk, they cut his throat and decapitated him. They then suspended the headless trunk from the ceiling, and, after making five incision, collected the blood in dishes and extracted the man's heart and lungs, which they subsequently used in their idolatrous rites. The mutilated body was thrown by the side of a high road. This atrocity was perpetrated as long ago as March 1894, during the great Russian famine and the object of the sacrifice was to appease the anger of Kourbane, and prevent a fresh visitation of the scourge. The accused, who were

inhabitants of the village of Staraia-Moultana, included men from thirty-five to forty-five years, and one old man of seventy, while several were leading inhabitants of their district. Three of the prisoners were acquitted, and of the remainder some were sentenced to penal servitude for life, and the others to deportation to Siberia."

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MIRZA Muhammad Khan, a British news-writer at Kandahar, has arrived at Sibi, having been, he says, compelled to leave Afghanistan by the persecution and despotism of the Afghan officials.

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THE number of persons who visited the Indian Museum during the 22 days of January last that it was open to the public, was 44,342. This gives a daily average of 2,015 persons, including male and female, European and Asiatic. The Europeans numbered 1,219 male and 506 female; the Asiatics 32,481 male and 10,136 female.

NOTES & LEADERETTES,

OUR OWN NEWS,

&

THE WEEK'S TELEGRAMS IN BRIEF, WITH OCCASIONAL COMMENTS.

THE War in the Far East still rages. The credentials of the Chinese Envoys deputed to offer terms of peace not having been found to be in perfect order, the Japanese Ministers have refused to enter into any negotiations with them. The Chinese Envoys were told to leave Japan immediately. They proceeded to Nagasaki under protection. A Conference is reported to have been held between the Japanese Ministers and Chinese Envoys of peace, but the proceedings have not transpired. According to despatches received from Japanese sources the Chinese fleet did not leave Wei-hai-wei. The forts on the island of Linkungtao and the Chinese fleet were keeping up a furious bombardment on the Japanese ships. The other ports of Weihaiwei were captured on Thursday afternoon last week. The loss on either side was very heavy. The Chinese troops garrisoning the forts retreated to Ginchu. On the 5th the Japanese made a night attack on the Chinese fleet in Wei-hai-Wei harbour and, after having torpedoed, sank two of the largest Chinese ironclads—the Chenyuen and Tingyuen Liu-Kungtao Island is now virtually in the hands of the Japanese. A strong Japanese force landed, on the 7th, near Chefoo and at once commenced simultaneous bombardment of the eastern and western forts. All foreigners in Chefoo are under arms. The gates of the city have been closed, and barricades erected.

INTENSE cold prevails throughout England and Scotland. Unprecedentedly low temperatures are recorded. In many parts the thermometer is below zero. Terrific snowstorms have occurred in Scotland.

PARLIAMENT reassembled on Feb. 5. The Queen's Speech was read by commission. It states that the relations of Great Britain with Foreign Powers are friendly, and refers with satisfaction to the agreement concluded with France, settling the frontier question of Sierra Leone. It regrets that the war between Japan and China continues. It states that Government has maintained a close cordial *entente* with the European Powers interested in those regions, and will lose no favourable occasion for promoting a peaceful termination of the contest. Owing to reports received by the Government of excesses committed by Turkish troops on Armenians in Asia Minor, it was thought right, acting conjointly with other Powers, to make a representation to the Porte on the subject. The Sultan has declared that the guilty will be severely punished, and has sent a commission of enquiry to the district to report on the allegations. The Speech announces that the following measures will be brought forward during the session: The Irish Land Bill, Evicted Tenants Bill, Welsh Disestablishment Bill, Local Veto Bill, Bill for the Abolition of Plural Voting, payment of the charges of returning officers, a measure for the conciliation of labour disputes, and amendment of the Factory Acts, completion of Scotch County Government, and further Legislation on the Crofter question.

The same afternoon, the House of Lords voted the Address in reply to the Speech from the Throne. Lord Rosebery said he was convinced that the Porte desired to ascertain the truth of the state of affairs in Armenia. If the atrocities alleged against the Turkish soldiers were proved, it was impossible for the Christian population in the Armenian provinces to remain in the present state.

In the House of Commons the Speech from the Throne was also taken into consideration. Sir W. Vernon Harcourt referred to the death of the late Emperor Alexander as a calamity to the cause of peace, though war was not desired by any of the European Powers. Regarding the question of increasing the Navy, the Chancellor of the Exchequer declared that the Government now resolved loyally to continue carrying out the naval programme, and denied that the question of Home Rule had been shelved. The measure was still the main object of the Liberal Party. Mr. Balfour, after paying a warm tribute to the memory of Lord Randolph Churchill, dwelt upon the absence of any reference to the Navy in the Queen's Speech and characterised the Government programme as a farce. He said that Lord Rosebery declined to introduce any resolution dealing with the House of Lords at the opening of the Session, because a dissolution of Parliament must immediately follow as a result of such a step.

Mr. Buxton, Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies, promising to introduce a Bill to enable Australia to enter into fiscal relations with the other Colonies, Mr. Howard Vincent withdrew the amendment in favour of a customs union for the Empire. On the 7th, the Chancellor of the Exchequer announced that a Select Committee would be appointed to take into consideration the distress arising from want of employment. The debate on the Address continues.

THE Rev. Dr. John Percival, headmaster of Rugby, and the Right Rev. Dr. Atlay, Bishop of Hereford, have openly expressed themselves in favour of the Disestablishment of the Church of Wales.

THE French opened the New Year at Madagascar with the occupation of Mojanga, the chief port on the north-west. There was no opposition. The Hovas retreated while the French advanced.

M. HENRI ROCHEFORT has arrived in Paris, and has been received with immense enthusiasm.

FURTHER intelligence received from Hawai shows that the recent attempt at insurrection has not been entirely quelled, an agitation being kept up to restore Queen Liliuokalani. Martial law has now been proclaimed, and the ex-Queen arrested. On her house being searched, a quantity of arms and dynamite bombs were discovered.

THE Conference of various Australian Premiers, assembled at Hobart, approved of the introduction of the Federation Bill and the formation of the Convention of members elected under popular suffrage to meet on an early date for the purpose of drafting a federal constitution for the Australian colonies.

A POSTAL Conference was held at Hobart, and a resolution was passed to the effect that in any future English Mail contract entered into by the Australian colonies, a clause should be inserted stipulating that coloured labour should be rigidly excluded from all steamers carrying mails.

A CROWDED meeting was held at Blackburn on Feb. 5 to protest against the imposition of cotton duties in India. The resolutions were unanimously passed.

THERE will be Chapters of the Orders of the Star of India and the Indian Empire in the Government House Grounds on Thursday, the 7th March, 1895, at 9 30 P. M. Members of the Orders who will be present in Calcutta on that day are expected to attend and to communicate their addresses to the Secretary to the Orders, who is the Secretary to the Government of India in the Foreign Department. Only the members of the Orders and members of the Consular body will be invited to attend. Other persons desirous of attending must apply for tickets, not later than the 25th of February, to Colonel A. Durnad, Military Secretary to the Viceroy. Tickets for admission will be issued on or after the 1st March.

AFTER the installation, on the 1st of February, of the minor Maharaja of Mysore, there was a State dinner at the Residency. In proposing the health of the Maharaja, the Resident, Colonel Henderson, after lamenting the death of the late ruler, referred to the arrangement made for administering the State during the minority :—

"You have to-day heard that the dignity and position of Regent of the Mysore State has been conferred by the Government of India on Her Highness the Maharani. The announcement has been hailed with enthusiasm by her fellow-countrymen, who know that in the control of her private affairs and the management of her family, Her Highness has been wise and judicious, while the calmness and self-restraint she has displayed since her grievous bereavement have won the respectful sympathy of all, both Englishmen and her own countrymen. Under such guidance there is every reason to be assured that His Highness will receive the education and training which will fit him to receive ruling powers in due course. Till that time comes there is further every reasonable assurance that the administration of the State will be satisfactorily conducted under the Regency of the Maharani, who, in the interviews she has been good enough to grant me, I found to be well conversant with public affairs. Joined to natural gifts of perception and intelligence Her Highness has received a good education in her own and the English languages, and is capable of forming a just opinion on questions that may be submitted to her. Her Highness has given an assurance that she will be readily accessible to her advisers, and in view of the sentiments so repeatedly expressed by her of firm loyalty to, and reliance on, the advice and support of the British Government, I have every confidence that when the Maharaja, qualified by age, enters upon the active duties of ruler of the State, he will still find the administrative system a model and example for all States in India. The Regent will still have the good fortune to retain the services of Sir K. Seshadri Iyer, the Minister, to whose conspicuous abilities the State so greatly owes its position in the van of progress. In due course Her Highness, with the approval of the Government of India, will probably nominate other Councillors, who will share with the Dewan the heavy burden of administrative duties, and thus enable him to devote more time and attention to many important subjects which constantly claim his consideration. That a body of honourable men, imbued with the traditions and trained in the school of the British service, and all animated with a feeling of loyalty to the family of their late master, will work harmoniously together for the public good, is to me a foregone conclusion. By the aid of such a body of wise, high-minded councillors I hope and believe that the Maharaja will be relieved of some of those heavy cares and responsibilities which I have before alluded to, as inseparable from his high position. I have already detained you longer than I intended in introducing the toast of the evening. Your sentiments will, perhaps, be fairly translated by me if I express a hope that the young Maharaja will follow closely in the footsteps of his father, and will grow up to be an honourable and good man, a wise and just ruler, a manly, courageous gentleman. I now propose the health of His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore, and ask you to let these walls ring once more with three British cheers, showing that our good wishes for his long life and prosperity are from our hearts, as well as our lips."

As "speeches" in India go, the above is a fair specimen, barring only a single lapse in the repetition of the word "receive." It is satisfactory to note that in the last sentence the walls "ring with cheers" instead of being "distinguished by the presence" of any body.

THE *Manchester Guardian* has the following :—

"The compulsory retirement of Sir Joseph Fayrer from the position of President of the Indian Medical Board has revived the outcry against the application of the sixty-five years' rule to distinguished specialists. The other day Dr. C. Rieu was compelled under the warrant to abandon his post at the British Museum, and the University of Cambridge now has the benefit of his services as Professor of Arabic. If he had entered the employment of some foreign country, the authors of the superannuation regulations would have looked rather foolish. The discharge of the eminent Egyptologist, Renouf, not only inflicted a great—one might almost say an irreparable—loss on the British Museum, but also filled the *savants* of the Continent with astonishment. Another case in point is that of Dr. Rost, who at the height of his intellectual activity and reputation as a Sanskrit scholar was deprived of the librarianship of the India Office, as if he were only a second-class clerk who could be replaced at a moment's notice. The question is raised whether the limit of age rule, salutary though it be in ordinary circumstances, was intended by its framers to drive from the service of the State such men as I have named. Sir Joseph Fayrer is, I hear, pecuniarily a great loser by his retirement. If he had remained in India he would have been entitled to a pension of about 400*l.* per annum higher than what he will now receive."

We are glad to find English papers censuring, however late in the day, the forced retirement of the specialists. But for the last retirement, perhaps, the *Guardian* would not have spoken. We do not know of any other paper adequately expressing its sense of indignation at the discharge of Dr. Rieu of the British Museum and Dr. Rost of the India Office. The after conduct to the latter is shabby, indeed. He is retained as a buck. The University of Cambridge went out of its way and altered its statutes to employ Dr. Rieu. The action of the University was severely criticized in some quarters, but the efforts of Mr. E. G. Browne, the Persian Reader at Cambridge, succeeded in securing for the University the greatest Arabic and Persian scholar in England. It is time for a question being put in Parliament.

IT is said that Sir Charles Elliott recently censured a Deputy Magistrate who, while reading a judgment, stood up in his Court, for honouring the Lieutenant-Governor standing among the listening spectators. The censure was proper. In respecting Sir Charles Elliott, the Deputy forgot his respect for Her Majesty the Queen-Empress, for every Court, Civil or Criminal, of even the lowest jurisdiction, is supposed to be presided over by the Sovereign. The Judge or Magistrate that forgets this, is deserving of punishment. If the Deputy was desirous of honouring the Lieutenant-Governor, he ought to have, without rising, invited Sir Charles to a seat beside his own on the bench. The story of the schoolmaster who did not rise at sight of the king, deserves to be widely known in this country. The strong common sense of the monarch told him that the absence of the customary marks of honour was dictated neither by ignorance nor the desire to offend. Without taking any offence, therefore, the illustrious visitor took the chair that was offered and interested himself in examining the children. The inspection over, his Majesty left the room, the schoolmaster following him. When the king was fairly out of sight of the children, the schoolmaster knelt down in reverence and begged for pardon, saying that he had no knee for his sovereign in the presence of his pupils ; that he had kept his seat for showing them that their teacher was a person inferior to none in the land. How far such a belief was necessary not simply for the government of the school but for securing an unquestioning acceptance by his pupils of everything that would fall from his lips, could not possibly be unknown to the monarch. As his conduct, therefore, was prompted by the desire of giving his Majesty a century or so of good subjects, he trusted that his Majesty would kindly pardon his seeming offence. The monarch, appreciating the motive, raised the schoolmaster and ever after numbered him among his best friends.

THE sacred books of ancient India mention an incident bearing on this point, which did not end so happily. Suta, or, as he is otherwise called, Ugraçravas Sauti, meaning one possessed of keen power of hearing and born in the Suta caste, was by profession a reciter of sacred histories. One day, as seated on the pulpit or elevated altar, in the midst of a large concourse of regenerate Rishis, in the woods of Naimisha, Suta was reciting some sacred history, there came Ráma, otherwise called Valadeva, of Yadu's race, the hero who had a plough for his weapon and who is described as always inebriated *(Kshiva)* with *Kádumvari* wine. Seeing the mighty hero, all the Bráhmanas rose for honouring him. Suta, unlike others, kept his seat, pursuant to what has been called the "old" practice. The fact is, the elevated seat occupied by the reciter of sacred histories was and still is called "Vyása-pitha," or the seat of Vyása, the compiler of the Vedas and author of the Mahábhárata. For the honour o that great Rishi, the occupier of the "Vyása-pitha" has not to rise at sight of even the king. Inebriated as Valadeva was, he forgot the custom and slew Suta as one that had insulted him. The assembled Bráhmanas uttered a yell of execration at the horrid deed. Ugraçravas was regarded as a portion of Vishnu himself, and, notwithstanding his caste, was highly honoured by the Bráhmanas for his extraordinary memory and learning. The Yádava hero, although he was the elder brother of Krishna himself and had large family interest, was forced to expiate his crime by a painful pilgrimage to diverse sacred waters in the Punjab and other parts of India, and make large gifts to the Bráhmanas. The deed itself was atrocious, and the Bráhmanas were powerful enough to exact an expiation. Valadeva found himself in a very uncomfortable situation till those who had pointed out to him the mode of expiation afterwards pronounced him sinless. Since that time, the occupier of the "Vyása-pitha" in India has not to rise at the advent of any person, how highsoever for rank or wealth.

Returning to Sir Charles Elliott, we are glad that he has put a check upon the sneakish spirit of subserviency which officials of a certain class have begun to discover, in total forgetfulness of what they owe to the Sovereign they represent and to themselves as her representatives. These men who cringe to authority often prove to be personifications of insolence to their subordinates and the public. No wonder that they become so many Atmaram Sircars of the public service. Poor Atmaram, whose memory has faded into an indistinct tradition, is to this day the butt of endless ridicule and *gali* with the Vediyahs of India who go about performing feats of legerdemain for the amusement of people.

AT the Hilary Pass Examination, 1895, or the General Examination of students of the Inns of Court, held at the Middle Temple on the 17th, 18th, 19th and 20th December 1894, the Council of Legal Education awarded to 148 students certificates that they have satisfactorily passed a Public Examination. Among them were 13 Hindus including 5 Bengalis, 8 Mahomedans, 4 Parsis and one Chinaman. Of Asiatics, the Hindus have hitherto been the pioneers The Mahomedans now show great advance. Considering the smallness of their number in comparison with the other nationalties, the Parsis may be said to have topped them all. Of the four Parsis who have passed, two are from Calcutta and brothers, sons of Mr. R. D. Mehta, the ex-Sheriff. The younger brother Byramjee Rustomjee has passed very creditably in Roman Law answering the questions in Latin. He is only 19 years of age and will not be called to the bar for two years until he is 21. Both the brothers are now studying for the Indian Civil Service Examination.

REIS & RAYYET.

Saturday, February 9, 1895.

THE CONVOCATION OF THE CALCUTTA UNIVERSITY.

THE Vice-Chancellor's address of the year at the Convocation of the Calcutta University, has certainly been a distinguished performance. In form and matter it has been such a deliverance as is due to the entire body of Fellows at their annual conclave. As in the absence of the Chancellor, the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal was the highest official present, the speech was formally addressed to him by his official designation, besides, of course, the members of the Senate. The fluctuations in the results of the examinations, with particular reference to two of them, *viz.*, the Matriculation and the B. A., were noticed. In the former, the number of successful candidates has been 2,269 against 3,722 of the year previous. In the B. A., an increase has been marked of 182 successful students over 315 of 1893-94. Such violent fluctuations have always appeared strange to persons unacquainted with the inner working of the University. They were unknown for many years after the establishment of the University. The Vice-Chancellor felt bound to take the public into confidence and endeavour to explain the method adopted for equalising the standard of merit insisted upon for success. Examiners may be lenient, or they may be strict. To get rid, as the Vice-Chancellor put it, of the "personal equation" in respect of examiners, those upon whose judgment and skill the Syndicate can rely are frequently re-appointed. Sir Alfred Croft is always happy in his quotations. Such re-appointment has accordingly been referred to as quite in keeping with Polonius's advice to his son about grappling, with hooks of steel, friends one already has and whose adoption has been tried. The number of examiners newly appointed is generally very small. Thus four-fifths of the examiners of the past year will be examiners for the new year, only one-fifth having been newly appointed. Since some time the practice has been followed of stating, on the question-paper itself given to candidates, the marks assigned to each question. To ensure carefulness in according marks to answers of different degrees of correctness, the head-examiners call a preliminary meeting in which they and their colleagues come to some sort of satisfactory understanding. Without following the Vice-Chancellor into regions of further details, it is pretty clear that so far as examiners are concerned, all that is capable of being done by forethought and attention is at last sought to be done for securing uniformity in the test of merit. While commending, however, the Syndicate for the general excellence of their arrangements, explained for the first time by the Vice-Chancellor at Convocation, we cannot avoid saying that the fluctuations in the results are so violent that their cause or causes must be held as still remaining undiscovered. In 1892-93 the number of successful candidates in the Entrance Examination was 2,034. Next year it was 3,722 Last year it was 2,269. The personal equation in respect of examiners having been eliminated, one cannot but hold that candidates improve or deteriorate according to some unknown law which the Vice-Chancellor is unable to explain. So far as teachers are concerned, we are pretty sure that the personal equation is still less noticeable among them than among examiners. It is, however, very difficult to believe that candidates, like crops, actually depend, in respect of both quantity and quality, on the meteorological aspects of different years. We must, therefore, fall back upon the examiners themselves as potent causes of the violent fluctuations that every one notices in the annual results. There are only two parties to the matter, the examiners and the examinees. Variations by the year in the intellectual calibre of the latter are out of the question. Hence, one must fall back upon the former for explaining them, notwithstanding the elaborate precautions taken by the Syndicate as described by the Vice-Chancellor To us it seems that those precautions are, on the face of them, rather inadequate. However much they may secure uniformity of test in respect of the knowledge shown by the candidates of a particular year, the examiners do not bestow the slightest thought upon comparing the standards of different years. The mere fact of a large number of examiners being re-appointed cannot secure such a comparison. Each examiner sees a certain number of papers He forgets, after the expiration of a year, his own manner of proceeding. Till a uniform standard of merit begins to be applied not simply to the candidates of a particular year but as regards candidates of different years, the elimination of the personal equation cannot be complete. At the preliminary meeting, described by the Vice Chancellor, of the examiners, something may easily be done, especially if the examiners are old and not new ones, to have their memories refreshed respecting the procedure adopted in the previous year in the matter of assigning marks to answers. The following method, we think, may be advantageously applied, not only for making the standard equal as regards different years but also for making it uniform in respect of candidates of even the same year. A certain number of answer-papers

The Indian Association for the Cultivation of Science.

Lecture by Babu Ram Chandra Datta, F C S, on Monday, the 11th Inst, at 4-15 P. M. *Subject:* Potassium.

Lecture by Mr. B Choudhuri, B. A., B. Sc, on Monday, the 11th Inst., at 5 30 P. M *Subject:* Origin of Species.

Lecture by Babu Ram Chandra Datta, F C S, on Tuesday, the 12th Inst., at 4 15 P M. *Subject:* Sodium and Ammonium.

Lecture by Babu Ram Chandra Datta, F C S., on Wednesday, the 13th Inst, at 4-15 P.M *Subject:* Magnesium.

Lecture by Dr. Nilratan Sirkar, M. A., M. D, on Wednesday, the 13th Inst. *Subject:* Carbo Hydrates.

Lecture by Babu Syamadas Mukherjee, M A., on Thursday, the 14th Inst, at 4 P. M. *Subject*. The Principle of Duality and the Theory of Reciprocal Polars.

Practical Class in Chemistry on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday.

Lecture by Mr. B. Chaudhuri, B. A., B Sc, on Thursday, the 14th Inst., at 5-30 P. M. *Subject*: Epithellium

Lecture by Dr. Nilratan Sircar, M. A., M. D, on Thursday, the 14th Inst, at 6-30 P. M. *Subject:* Blood Vessels.

Lecture by Dr. Mahendra Lal Sircar, on Friday, the 15th Inst., at 5 30 P.M *Subject:* Nervous System—Development.

Lecture by Mr. B. Chaudhuri, B. A., B. Sc., on Saturday, the 16th Inst., at 5 P.M. *Subject*: Concluding Remarks on Evolution.

MAHENDRA LAL SIRCAR, M.D.,

February 9, 1895. *Honorary Secretary.*

of every year may easily be kept for reference in the next year. There should be no indication in the answer papers themselves of the marks assigned to each answer. These should be noted in a separate register. The head-examiner should arrange for the same set of answer papers,—numbering, for example, half-a-dozen,—being examined by every one of the examiners separately. By doing this and comparing results, the examiners will understand one another far better than by adoption of any other scheme. The present method consists of the head-examiner's selecting at random 5 papers from among every tale of a hundred for seeing how the work is proceeding. We do not insist upon abolition of the present practice, but we wish to have added to it what we recommend. Until that is done, real uniformity cannot be secured in the standard of merit demanded from candidates. The utility of this procedure is so obvious that we wonder the Syndicate have not adopted it as yet, seriously bent as they must be held to be upon elimination of the personal equation.

By far the most potent cause connected with the fluctuations is not personal peculiarities of the examinees in assigning marks to answers of different degrees of error or correctness, but in setting questions of different degrees of difficulty. There is very often a great inequality in the question-papers of different years. The Vice-Chancellor did not touch this subject at all. Every one employed in the act of teachiug knows that it is this and not any difference in the system of assigning marks to answers that produces the inequalities noticeable in the results of successive years. We hope the Syndicate will turn their attention to this. We think that the mere fact of appointing the same set of examiners will not, of itself, equalize the question-papers of successive years. The importance of the matter would justify a conference between the Syndicate and the Principals and headmasters of affiliated colleges and schools.

In former years the Syndicate used to jealously keep from the candidates a knowledge of the marks gained by them in each branch. Since sometime the healthy rule has been enacted that if candidates wish to ascertain their marks the Registrar will let them know on receiving a formal application accompanied by a fee. To this rule, however, should be added another. Many candidates complain that the marks forwarded to them sometimes do not come up to their own forecasts. The Syndicate think that candidates are very often mistaken in the estimates they make of their own proficiency. Accordingly, applications for re-examination of particular papers are invariably refused. The practice prevails of destroying answer papers immediately after the publication of results. This haste prevents a reference for even a revision of totals. We think a great injustice is done to many candidates by a refusal to re-examine their papers. The history of the Calcutta University is not so pure as one may imagine. Dozens of instances have occurred of candidates having been first declared unsuccessful who have, however, afterwards been declared successful. At one time the Registrar's department was a sink of corruption. Was not a clerk dismissed and protected from a criminal prosecution who had been convicted of systematically tampering with the marks of particular candidates? Much has been done of late years to prevent such practices, and we are perfectly willing to believe that not a trace exists of that loose and careless *régime* which had made it possible for a clerk to tamper with the results of our examinations. But can there be no error? In summing up the marks assigned to each separate answer, there may be error. In writing down the mark intended to be set, the examiner may make a mistake. Why then sternly refuse to open up a way for correction of errors? Supposing that candidates are really mistaken in the estimates they make of their own proficiency, their teachers can seldom go wrong. Surely, an intelligent teacher or professor, who has taught a student for one whole year or two years, should be held to know him better than an examiner who has necessarily to work under serious drawbacks, the chief of which is the shortness of time within which he must send in the results. Under the circumstances, the Syndicate would act wisely by making a rule that when a candidate makes an application for re-examination of any paper of his, and when such application is backed by his teacher or professor, it should be granted. A fee may be levied for such re-examination. By granting it, another step is surely to be gained in the elimination of the personal equation.

The Vice-Chancellor referred, somewhat elaborately, to the suit brought by a B. L. candidate last year, in the High Court, against the University. The suit was dismissed by Mr. Justice Sale with some observations which the Vice-Chancellor quoted with approbation. We were amongst those few that had condemned the action of the candidates who sought to steal a march over the University, and of those members of the Senate who exerted themselves most injudiciously on their behalf. The severity with which the candidate's conduct has been noticed has our approval. The ground of action was perfectly frivolous. The decision seems to be good law. So far however as Mr. Justice Sale's arguments are concerned, we are not sure that they are infallibly correct. The University is the giver of degrees. Courts of law should never arrogate to themselves the functions of the University by pronouncing a candidate successful who has not been declared so by the University. If this reasoning be held to be correct, the High Court then would practically cease to be a court of equity for enforcing corporate bodies to proceed according to their known and published rules. The decision should have been based upon not the incompetence of the Court to interfere but the undesirability to interfere under the particular circumstances of the case before it. The error in the Calendar upon which the candidate based his action was immaterial. It was a transparent pretence that nobody knew that the head-mark had been increased with the increase in the number of subjects. Then, again, as far as the rules go, there are other technicalities that stood in the way of the Court pronouncing a decree. If the High Court be actually incompetent to interfere, even in the case of a material irregularity, there would then be no power in the land, save public opinion which is very weak in India, which would be able to force the University to comply with its own rules of procedure.

The Vice-Chancellor paid very graceful tributes to the memories of those distinguished Fellows who breathed their last in course of the year under his review. In each case the characterisation has been singularly felicitous. They could come from only a master hand. The strokes have been few, yet the outlines of every figure have been clear and distinct and unmistakable.

We have not been satisfied with Sir Alfred Croft's peroration, exhorting the graduates to show love and affection for the University. In the earlier part of his address, Sir A. Croft pointed out that the Calcutta University is only an examining and not a teaching body. This view, we think, is not wholly correct, for by regulating the examinations it is the University, and not the institutions affiliated with it, that determines the subjects taught, their extent, and the manner of teaching them. For all that, the University, as a corporation, can scarcely be said to have a body for which it is possible to show any affection, or a soul for which one can utter a blessing. The only associations which our graduates can carry away with them of their University into the great world, must be connected with the tortures of the examination hall. The Syndicate hold their meetings in secret. The very names of the members are not generally known.

THE SORROWS OF A COURT OF WARDS' WARD.

When the age of majority was raised from 18 to 21 years for young men whose estates were to be managed by the Courts of Wards, the Board of Revenue framed an excellent resolution. It was wisely determined that the additional years should be utilized in preparing the wards for their future responsibilities by initiating them into the principles of Zamindari management, and endeavouring to reduce the influence of evil counsellors to a minimum. To secure due attention to their resolution, the Board directed that whenever a minor, whose estate was vested in the Court of Wards, attained the age of 18, the Collector under whose superintendence he would be placed should report to the Commissioner the steps he proposed to take for gradually teaching the Ward the business of the estate. Excellent as the provision is, it is more honoured in the breach, than the observance. Collectors have so many things to do that it is almost impossible for them to think of what should be done in order to fit the wards for their future position. There are wards and wards. In the case of wards belonging to such families as Burdwan, or Cossimbazar, or Paikpara, who are too much before the public eye, Collectors, however overworked, would not venture safely to ignore the Board's direction. But in the case of wards whose estates are of little value, Collectors are very often unconscious of their very existence. A local manager is appointed, on a monthly pittance, who is supposed to manage the estate and render accounts to the Collector's Deputy, who, in his turn, is supposed to examine and pass them. We have grave doubts if those accounts are ever looked into by anybody. The Collector reposes complete confidence on his Deputy, and the Deputy has complete confidence on the local manager, so that the latter is always the master of the situation. Differences often arise between the manager and the Guardian, who is generally some relation of the ward, but the Collector is always the Collector and, hence, the manager, who is a mercenary individual, is always supported against the Guardian who has every reason, for the ties of blood and affection, to be faithful to the interests of the ward. To give a particular example. The Banerjees of Baranagore represent an old family. At one time, they possessed considerable property in the form of Zemindaries and houses and land in Calcutta. Through causes unnecessary to be adverted to, the splendid possessions of the family dwindled away, till at last, in the general wreck, an income of about Rs. 10,000 was all that was left for the support of two minors, the eldest of whom is, again, deaf and dumb. The Court of Wards took possession of this little property, appointing a distant kinsman of the family, on a pay of Rs. 15 a month, as the local manager. The little property has been further reduced, proving the infinite divisibility of matter. The present income of the family is about Rs. 6,000. There are, again, some debts to pay. The local manager is all in all, and the Guardian, the grandmother of the wards, is nobody. She has no voice over even the movements of the younger ward who has passed his twentieth year and will complete his minority only nine months hence. Like almost all wards whose education has been supervised by the Court, the Baranagore ward has not made much progress in his studies. A few months back he desired to examine the accounts of the local manager, with a view to learn something of the estate and see how the trust has been fulfilled. He was then going on in his twentieth year. Every person of any consequence in Baranagore knows that this young man's moral character is exemplary. Indeed, though he has not been able to pick up a sufficient knowledge of Euclid and of English history, yet he has not contracted any of the vices of the period. The income of the estate being very small, no evil counsellors have converged towards him. Instead, however, of praising his resolution and helping him to carry it out, the Collector of the 24-Pergunnahs at once issued, on the representation of the local manager, a mandate for his immediate removal from Baranagore to Chinsurah, where he was admitted in the third form of an elementary school and lodged in a boarding establishment for boys whose feed costs the very handsome amount of Rs. 4-8 per month. The Guardian objected to the removal. The following extract from her communication to the Board of Revenue may be read with interest not only by the Collector of the 24-Pergunnahs, through whom it has been addressed, but by all those who have anything to do with the supervision of the education of our wards. "Your petitioner wishes to particularly lay it before you that the ward, Matilal, is not a minor under the law of minority as conceived by the Hindu sages and applied by the British Indian Courts to all but an infinitesimal fraction of the population of India. He will be 20 years of age next Kártik (September-October). Even the limit of age that the Cornwallis's Code provided, *viz.*, 18 years, with respect to the scions of the biggest landed houses within the permanently settled provinces, has been long ago passed by him. It is only under a special law, which provides 21 as the limit, that he is to be treated as a minor. If his estate had not been taken charge of by the Court of Wards, he would, under both the Hindu law and the Cornwallis' Code, have been fully competent, at this age, to enter into every sort of legal contract. If he had been married in time he would have been a father. Although his intellectual progress has not been satisfactory judged by the test of public examinations, he is not the only scion of a respectable house that has been so backward, as cannot but be well known to you. He is quite competent to judge of the effects produced by the management of 18 years on the estate he had inherited from his ancestors. Your petitioner states the bare truth when she submits that that management has been such that, if continued for another 3 or 4 years, the estate will assuredly be managed off to absolute disappearance or extinction. The period left for Matilal's attaining to majority under the especial law is only one year and two months. Your petitioner respectfully submits that instead of forcing him to spend this period in an ineffectual study of Euclid and of some papers of Addison and Johnson and Friswell and Smiles, and some poems of Cowper and Campbell and Southey, it may be spent much more profitably in teaching him to understand *Jumma-Wasilbaki* papers, the principles of Zemindari *Tomar*, the particulars that should be included in *pottahs* and *kabuliyats*, the rules of land-measurement, the incidents, as regulated by the Rent-law, of the relationship

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between landlords and tenants, and the steps through which a rent suit must pass before what is due from recusant tenants can be expected to be realised. The Manager * * * * has persistently thrown every obstacle in his power in the way of Matilal's picking up such useful knowledge. Few wards in India succeed in acquiring the power of turning out good sentences in English, or solving problems and working out theorems in Geometry and Algebra; but many of them certainly can pick up such knowledge of Zemindari management as is absolutely needed by them if they are to live in happiness and peace. Your petitioner, therefore, earnestly prays that further efforts may be discontinued for forcing Matilal to pick up such knowledge of English and Mathematics and History and Geography in an English school as he is, to judge by past experience, incapable of picking up with even his best efforts after the manner of most wards throughout the country; for Matilal can by no means be held singular in this respect. She earnestly implores that the very short period that remains for his attaining to majority be allowed to be devoted to the acquisition of knowledge that will be really useful to him,—knowledge, that is, of Zemindari management."

This representation to the Board is dated August 10, 1894. To this day, so beautiful is the system of red-tapeism under which we live, it remains even unacknowledged. In all probability it has not been forwarded by the Collector as yet. He must have made it over to his Deputy, who, in his turn, has made it over to the local manager upon whose explanations, although he is the party complained against, the Collector will doubtless base his ukase. That ukase will be supported by the Board in spite of its own circular order already referred to regarding the manner in which wards are to be fitted for their future responsibilities. Sir Charles Elliott is credited with sometimes looking into things with his own eyes. Have the accounts of the Baranagore estate been ever audited? Can the Deputy who is supposed to examine them take upon himself to say that he has done his duty to his own satisfaction amid his multifarious work?

We desire to add an extract from the petition addressed by the ward himself touching his stay at Chinsurah. "Without referring to the other letters that passed between his Guardian and the Collector, your petitioner begs to submit that ill and weak though he was, seeing that the Collector was immovable and utterly regardless of even the most urgent representations to him, he (your petitioner) proceeded to Hooghly on the 20th July last and got himself admitted in the 3rd class of the Hooghly Collegiate School, the rate of schooling being Rs. 3-8 per month. Your petitioner had to join the Chinsurah Boarding establishment where he remained for a little less than a week, repairing to the school from that place. During the short period your petitioner remained in the Boarding Establishment, he had to endure every sort of inconvenience. The total monthly charge in this establishment for a single student is Rs. 4-8 per month. The Chinsurah Boarding Establishment, it will thus be seen, exists for the children of the poorer portion of the middle classes. Rs. 4-8 is utterly incapable of providing such comforts to which your petitioner has been accustomed from his infancy. He does not at all exaggerate when he submits that the fare supplied by that Establishment is truly such as made him fear that a month's residence there would bring about the actual dissolution of his body. Your petitioner found that the entire number of students, about 65 in all, are waited upon by only one servant, who, again, does not attened all days of the week. Your petitioner from his infancy, has been accustomed to be waited upon by a loving and careful valet. Even if he could anyhow keep body and soul together upon the food supplied by the institution, the total deprivation of the services of a valet was what your petitioner could not stand. He had been ill when he went to Hooghly. His illness increased greatly, in consequence of the insufficient food he had to live upon. He, therefore, was obliged to come away..... .....His health has gone down daily, the anxiety attendant on his situation retarding the cure of his maladies and aggravating them in every way."

This is a pretty tale coming from a place so near Calcutta as Baranagore. The ward himself, having applied for permission to examine the accounts of his estate, finds himself ordered to leave home under color of a solicitude for his education, and forced to take up his residence in a place where the conditions of living are not at all suited to him. From what we know of Mr. Collier, we have not the slightest doubt that he has been prejudiced by successful misrepresentation. A European official has very little means at his disposal, unless he happens to be exceptionally able, for testing the correctness of information officially supplied. There are men of culture living at Baranagore. It would have cost Mr. Collier very little trouble to ascertain what the actual age of his ward is and to judge for himself, before issuing his mandate of removal from home, what good would be done to the young man by forcing him to cultivate the philosophy of Friswell and the epigrammatic prelections of Smiles, aided by the Hints offered by Messrs. Rowe and Webb for the cultivation of English composition, instead of examining his *Hastabood* and checking the returns of his arrears by a careful *Tomar*. If the Collector had time to do his duty, he would, of his own accord, have before this aided the young man to accomplish what he wants.

MILITARY EXECUTIONS.

A correspondent, who adopts the appropriate *nom de plume* of "dynamite," urges that blowing from a gun is a more effectual penalty for military murders than hanging. The suggestion opens up a large question, which, as is usual, has more sides than one. In the first place, it is not by any means clear that the form of execution which he advocates is so abhorrent to the native military mind as the gallows. In the eyes of uncultured Mahomedans a peculiar ignominy attaches to the latter, for a reason which cannot well be expatiated on in these columns. That Hindu soldiers prefer the cannon to the halter as a solvent of their existence is evidenced by the history of a forgotten episode of the Indian Mutiny. In May 1857, the Raja of Nurgund, a small State in the South Mahratta country, threw off his allegiance. Like Nana Shib he was deeply aggrieved by the refusal of our Government to recognise the national custom of adoption; for, being childless, he knew that his territories would be annexed after his death. He signalised his defection by the slaughter of Mr. Manson, a Political Agent, stationed at Belgaum, who had rashly made a demonstration into his territories with a small native escort. A field force was speedily got together, consisting of two guns R. A., two companies of the 74th Highlanders, and one of the 28th Bombay N. I., with two hundred Mahratta horsemen under Colonel Malcolm; and siege was laid to the rebel chieftain's capital. Nurgund is about 30 miles from Kittur. The frontespiece to Mrs. Leopold Paget's *Camp and Cantonment*, from which I have extracted my story, show it to be a perfect Gibraltar in miniature, perched on a scarped rock several hundred feet above the squalid town which nestles in its shadow. It had, indeed, defied the assault of Tippu Sultan; and, held by a few determined men, it could never have been taken by the small force detailed for the siege. But no serious resistance was offered. On June 1st, the Raja sallied forth at the head of a horde of several thousand horsemen, who, on being fiercely charged by Malcolm's troopers, retreated into the town. The howitzers made some splendid shell practice amid the crowded streets, and drove the defenders to take refuge in the citadel. On the following morning a storming party marched forth in silence to capture the latter. They climbed the rocky path leading to the principal gate, expecting every moment to be greeted with a leaden ball. But all was still, and the troops reached the base of the ramparts without encountering a semblance of opposition. Then a solitary defender looked over the parapet, and began pelting the assailants with stones. He disappeared, however, when a couple of Enfield rifle bullets whistled past his head. A sowar then volunteered to climb the wall and open the gate from within, a feat which he performed without being molested. It was found that all the Raja's troops had evacuated the fortress: and the few poor creatures left, sought death by throwing themselves over precipices. The Raja with only seven attendants, all implicated in Manson's murder, took refuge in the jungles round Ramdrug, whence they were ferretted out by Soutar's Belgaum police. The Raja's trial brought his cowardice into stronger relief than did his precipitate flight before a very inferior force. Asked why, after burning his ships as he had done he did not attempt to make a stand, he said that "he did not know how it was. His arms were ready to fight, his head and legs were ready, but there was something there (tapping his side) which

would not fight; and he supposed that his followers suffered from the same complaint." When condemned to die he expressed intense horror at the thought of being hanged. Like Nana Sahib he was a Brahmin of the bluest blood: and he dreaded the loss of caste far more than death itself. He, therefore, repeatedly petitioned that he might be blown from a gun. His prayer was refused: for our policy was jealously watched by a sullen population; and men were heard to murmur that the rope was not made which could hang a Brahmin. Things looked at one time as if the superstition rested on some basis; for the execution was miserably bungled. The condemned wretch was kept waiting at the foot of the gallows for three-quarters of an hour, while the drop was being adjusted: and when it fell the rope broke, necessitating a second and successful attempt. Yet another instance, culled from Mrs. Paget's artless narrative, of the stoicism with which soldiers regarded this terrific punishment. "Leopold's battery," she writes, "was detained for a week at Kolapur to witness the execution of two native officers who were concerned in the outbreak at that station and sentenced to be blown away from guns." She thus described the scene:---"The troops in the garrison were formed in long line on the parade, with the guns in advance of the centre, and the prisoners unbound, standing amongst their guard. Their sentence was read in English at each end of the line; after which Brigadier-General Jacob addressed the native regiments in a fine, animated speech in their own tongue. The prisoners then quietly and with perfect stoicism, walked up to the gnn, one of them, an old subadar, turning and salaaming to the gun as he passed. They placed themselves with their backs to the muzzles, and extended their arms which were loosely tied to the wheels. They remained in this position while the troops formed three sides of a square. Then the word was given---'make ready' and the glimmer of the portfires might be seen in the growing dusk. The moment of breathless suspense was cut short by the word 'Fire!'---a puff of smoke, a discharge ---and nothing remained but a few small black fragments on the ground, and a smell of burnt flesh polluting the sweet evening breeze. The natives, to the number of 4,000 or 5,000, had assembled to witness the execution; but unfortunately they rather consider being blown away an honourable death, and therefore the moral effect of such an example is lessened."

It is, therefore, clear that blowing from a gun is deemed by the native army a more soldierly form of execution than the gallows. The latter has the added terror, in the eyes of Hindus, that it involves loss of caste, Macaulay's Schoolboy has probably read that when that marsh-snake Nancomar expiated his intrigues on a gibbet, erected at Coolie Bazar, now called Hastings, the Calcutta Brahmins, filled with horror at the sacrilege, plunged the crowds into the sacred Hughli to wash away the sin of assisting at so great a crime. It is not so generally known that many families abandoned the accursed city and founded a Brahmin hive which still thrives in the Howrah suburbs of Bally and Uttarpara. If the main object of the death penalty is deterrent, then the indelible stigma of the gallows is too valuable a check in crime to be disregarded. In point of fact the problem is not one for subjective treatment. The European, thrilling with vitality and cursed with a shrinking terror of the problematic hereafter, and the fathomless Oriental, with his low-strung nervous system and his ingrained fatalism, must not be judged by the same standard. A fate full of unspeakable horror for the one is regarded by the other with feelings akin to equanimity. Ten years ago I became rather intimate with an old Rajput of good family in South Behar, a great sportsman and very hospitable to Europeans. I knew that he had had a narrow "squeak" in the Mutiny, and one day got him to tell me the story. He had been compelled by his kinsman, Kuar Singh, to join the host besieging the famous house at Arrah; and he took part in the action, fought with the relieving force under Eyre. Convinced by the crushing defeat his side sustained that the Sahibs must ultimately win, he drew off his followers and waited events at a shooting-box in the wilds of Chutia Nagpur. They developed unfavourably for the chieftain. Betrayed by a servant, he was arrested, and brought with thirteen comrades to Dinapore, where a drumhead court-martial made short work of their trial. All were condemned to be blown from guns early on the following morning. He passed the night trussed like a fowl at the quarter-guard; and at dawn next day found himself tied to the wheels of one of a line of fourteen guns, which formed a side of a hollow square, the two flanks being occupied by all the troops in garrison. The artillerymen stood by, ready to touch off at the word of command, which was to have been given on the arrival of the Brigadier. But the clatter of hoofs, which should have been their death-knell, never sounded. There had been a "wet night" at mess to welcome an incoming regiment, and the General had punished the East India Particulese Madeira to an extent which confined him to his couch and rendered him dangerous to approach. After an hour's wait the troops were dismissed, and the prisoners marched back to durance. But the same afternoon there came a telegram from "Clemency Canning" forbidding further execution. I asked the grand old rebel what his feelings were at the supreme moment, and he said, "Sahib, it was wintry day, and well do I remember that the muzzle of the cannon felt bitterly cold against my bare shoulders and dried up my marrow."

I am a humble civilian, and express my own views on the subject with becoming deference to "Dynamite," who is evidently a Son of Mars. They are these. It matters but little what form military punishment takes so long as it is promptly inflicted. Our delays and formalities result in our losing more than half the effect of the death sentence. I would bring a man who takes or attempts the life of his superior officer to a drumhead court martial and hang him within twenty-four hours. This is a policy which was at one time kept in a view at home. I remember, nearly a quarter of a century ago, an epidemic of cases of the sort, and reporting as a "selected candidate" for the I. C. S. trials of soldiers held on the same day at the Old Bailey. They were very brief; for defence there was none. On the following morning I was one of a joyous picnic party going to a place on the S. W. Railway. While waiting at Waterloo, I saw two four-wheeled cabs drive up. One contained a pair of murderers closely manacled in charge of two armed warders; the other a military escort. After the party had marched through the crowded station and settled themselves in a reserved third class carriage, I asked the sergeant in command what it all meant. He told me that so many men had shot their officers of late that a speedy example were considered necessary; and that these men had been brought up from Aldershot to the Central Criminal Court for trial, instead of waiting for the Assizes. He added that they were to be hanged at Winchester on the following morning. It was a glorious summer day; and the contrast between the glad sunshine, the holiday crowd, and the utter hopelessness of the wretches condemned to die was heart-sickening.

---The *Pioneer*. F. H. S.

THE GRIEVANCES OF CIVIL ASSISTANT SURGEONS AND CIVIL HOSPITAL ASSISTANTS.

Briefly, the grievances of Civil Hospital Assistants may be classed under two heads: ---(1) Status, (2) Pay, Allowances and Pension.

1. *Status.*--It is admitted that of recent years the educational and professional training of Civil Hospital Assistants has been greatly improved. They now undergo a full curriculum of four years' medical education, and are recognised officially as qualified practitioners of a subordinate grade. They are ordinarily made to fulfil the duties of assistants to Civil Surgeons, but they are frequently placed in independent charge of small districts, dispensaries and jails, and are largely used in promoting the work of rural sanitation and vaccination. It is felt that in keeping with these onerous duties the title of Hospital Assistant is a misnomer, since the compounders, dressers, and other menial servants of a hospital, are also known as hospital assistants. This appellation serves to keep them low in the social scale, and it is felt that a change of designation to that of Sub-Assistant Surgeon would adequately describe their professional and subordinate position, and at the same time remove a grievance which is the cause of much heart-burning and dissatisfaction.

2. *Pay, Allowances and Pension.*---There are three grades of Civil Hospital Assistants. The lowest receives a salary of Rs. 25 monthly, which, after seven years, constituting the second grade, is raised to Rs. 35; following which is the highest grade, which is entered after fourteen years' service, and has a salary of Rs. 55. The independent charge of dispensaries is attended with an additional ten rupees per mensem.

In comparison with similar subordinate grades in the Public Works Department, Police, Judicial, Revenue Departments, &c., the pay, pospects and general allowances are very meagre indeed; thus a Sub Overseer in the P. W. D. can rise to be a Sub-Engineer on Rs. 400 per mensem; a sergeant of the native police can rise to be an Inspector on Rs. 200 per mensem; while subordinate clerks in the Sub-Judicial and Sub Revenue departments, have an avenue of promotions open to them, which yield emoluments varying from three to six hundred rupees per mensem. In none of these subordinate services is the educational and professional training as rigorous as that required for this section of the subordinate medical service. It is felt that a small increase of salary and pesion for each grade of Civil Hospital Assistants and the creation of a special senior grade, promotion to which would be made for special merit and qualifications, would fully meet the disadvantages under which they at present labor.

The other grievance is detailed in the following letter:---

To

Surgeon Major-General W. R. RICE, M.D., C.S.I,

Surgeon-General with the Government of India.

Sir,---We have the honor, on behalf of the Indian Medical Association, and of the parties concerned, to lay before you the following representation of the grievances of Assistant Surgeons of the Civil Medical Department of the Presidential and Provincial administrations under your command.

I. That though the standard of qualifications of Civil Assistant

Surgeons, both classical and professional, has been greatly enhanced and their duties and responsibilities heavily augmented since the formation of this service in 1841, the status, salary, prospects and pension are the same to-day as they were 50 years ago. That as compared with other State services locally recruited, such as the Judicial, Engineering, Educational, Revenue, Administration, etc., an Indian or Anglo-Indian Subordinate of inferior academic qualifications than an Assistant Surgeon, has the prospect of rising to the highest position in the Service to which he belongs, while the emolument of these various locally recruited State services, when compared with the emoluments of Assistant Surgeons, are a cause for serious dissatisfaction, and become a grievance of a very marked character indeed.

The fact that an Assistant Surgeon's maximum salary is Rs. 200, that his travelling and officiating allowances are out of all proportion to the expenses necessary for the up-keep of his professional work and worth find a most unsuitable recompense when compared not only with his own compeers in other subordinate services, but also when compared with junior medical practitioners having inferior qualifications, exhibits a strange and disparaging anomaly. It is important in this connection to point out that the work of Assistant Surgeons in the medical charge of districts, civil hospitals and dispensaries, as well as jails, and the supervision of vaccination and rural sanitation, is admittedly large and onerous.

As a case in point for comparison of two subordinate services, it may be stated that a First Grade Assistant Surgeon is paid a fourth of the salary of a Deputy Magistrate. These two subordinate services, when first created, were on the same footing with regard to pay and prospects. At the present time the Subordinate Deputy Magistrate, of 14 years service, draws a salary of Rs. 800, while the Assistant Surgeon of 14 years' service draws only Rs. 200. It is argued in connection with the small salary paid to Assistant Surgeons that they are allowed private practice. It is admitted on all sides, however, that the work of these subordinate officers is so burdensome that they have litte or no time for private practice, so that their added remuneration from this supposed sources of income in no way represents adequate emoluments, while the ever-increasing additions of qualified practitioners to the field of private pratice, makes the prospect of an income from such a source still more diminutive.

It is maintained that their impecuniosity has greatly handicapped their social status, rendering their condition both socially and pecuniarily one of great hardship.

2. That with regard to prospects, though Assistant Surgeons are eligible from promotion to the Unconvenanted or higher Civil Medical Service, they are not so promoted. There is therefore no avenue or prospect of promotion open to the Assistant Surgeon beyond the three grades or his own service, which terminate with a maximum salary of Rs. 200, with no other title or rank than that of Assistant Surgeon and a pension of Rs. 100 after 30 years of laborious work.

3. With regard to status, it is felt, that when compared with other subordinate service, the position of an assistant Surgeon is very ill-defined, that he is subjected to the restrictions of the Arms Act which does not effect his compeers in similar subordinate service, and that in such State gatherings as Levees, Durbars, etc., he is without any definite status, and that the absence of some official recognition of his position, tends to degrade him and his class socially among his countrymen.

We have carefully considered the voluminous statements of the grievances of Civil Assistant Surgeons as published by them in the *Indian Medical Record*, the organ of the Association and of the local profession, but we feel that the lengthy correspondence referred to, resolves itself into the points raised in the communication, and we do not desire to trespass too much upon the time and patience of the Indian Government.

With this brief statement of the grievances of Assistant Surgeons, the Council of the Indian Medical Association, as representing the the local profession of this country, desires most respectfully with a view of offering such help as it may towards the settlement of this important problem, to offer the following suggestions for the kind and gracious consideration of the Government of India, *viz*:—

I. That Civil Assistant Surgeons be designated Assistant Civil Surgeons and that their service be merged into the present Uncovernted Medical service under the title of the *Indian Civil Medical Service*.

II. That such service be graded as follows :—

(a). Civil Surgeons (as at present graded in the Uncovenanted Medical service).

(b). Senior Assistant Civil Surgeons. A new grade, promotion to which will be made after 20 years' service, for special merit.

(c) First Grade Assistant Civil Surgeon.

(d) Second Grade " "

(e) Third Grade " "

III. That the grades, salary and pension be arranged as follows :—

Tabular Statement showing Grades, duration of Service, Salary and Pension in each Grade, together with Allowances of the Indian Civil Medical Service.

GRADES OF I.C.M S.	Service for Grade.	Salary.	Pension.	Allowances.
1. Civil Surgeon* ...		Rs.	Rs.	
2. Senior Assistant Civil Surgeon.	(Special)	500	250	The same as Civil Surgeons (U.C.M.S) when in officiating charge. Grade allowances same as the Subordinate Judicial Service.
3. First Grade Assistant Civil Surgeon	25 years.	400	200	
	20 "	350	175	
4. Second ditto.	15 "	300	150	
	10 "	250		
5. Third ditto.	5 "	200		
	.....	150		

Having respectfully submitted the foregoing suggestions regarding change of service and grade designation, for better prospects in regard to promotion, pay, travelling and other allowances and pension, it now remains to mention the subject of official status.

In this matter we feel that the justice and merits of the case would be suitably met by according to the Assistant surgeon class, the same public status as is at present recognised for the Subordinate Judicial Service.

In conclusion, we would most respectfully beg your generous consideration and support of this communication, as we feel that your recommendations for the amelioration of the grievances of Civil Assistant Surgeons will tend not only to the contentment and gratification of a large and worthy section of State servants, but will be the means of signal encouragement to medical education and progress in our Indian medical schools and colleges.

THE BIRDS WHISTLED "THE DEAD MARCH."

"Even the birds on the trees learned to whistle the 'Dead March.'"

It was an old soldier who was talking. "We were in camp," he said, "in a flat, malarious part of the country. Our Colonel was a splendid fighter, but didn't appear to have any idea of sanitary matters. Just then we were in more danger from disease than from the enemy. Presently fever broke out and the men died by the dozen. Hardly a day but we buried some of them in the swamp. In fact, we played the "Dead March" so often that I used to fancy the birds in the trees had learned to whistle it. "Awful sorry, you know, boys," said our Colonel, "but so long as we have to stay here, we can't help having the fever." Yet the Colonel was wrong, as another regiment camped near us almost wholly escaped. But their commander fought the malaria with sanitation and preventive medicine. That made the difference."

In January, 1892, the influenza was epidemic at Stebbing, near Chelmsford. Among the persons attacked were Mrs. Abram Thorogood of White House Farm, her daughter Annie, and her sons William and Earnest. They had terrible pains in the head, sore muscles and joints, and were very feverish. The whole four—mother and three children—were confined to their beds.

In a letter on the subject Mr. Thorogood says: "my wife became quite delirious; she did not know where she was, and could neither get in nor out of bed. I gave Mother Seigel's Curative Syrup to all of them with excellent results, the fever soon left them, and shortly they were well and strong as ever, and have since remained so. I may mention that many neighbours and friends had the same complaint as my wife and family, but although the others had doctors and the best attention and advice, none recovered so rapidly as my people did. I thank God that I came to hear of Mother Seigel's Curative Syrup, for although we are a family of seven, living at home, during the eight years I have kept it in the house we have not needed a doctor, thus saving many pounds in doctors' bills and costly prescriptions.

"The way I first used Seigel's Syrup was this: In the spring of 1883 I began to feel ill and out of sorts. My tongue was dreadfully coated and a thick phlegm covered my gums and teeth. After eating I suffered from pain at the chest and stomach. I had bad nights, and sweat so much that in the morning *my underclothing was soaked with moisture*. In the following August carbuncles came on the back of my neck, on my nose, and on my cheek bone. What I suffered I cannot describe. I got so low and weak that I could barely crawl about. The doctors did me no good. And as for their physic I might as well have taken tea or water. In pain and suffering I lingered on until I heard, through a neighbour, of Mother Seigel's Curative Syrup and got a bottle from Mr. W. Linsell, grocer, of Stebbing. A few doses relieved me, and soon the carbuncles disappeared, and I was well as ever. Yours truly, (Signed) ABRAM THOROGOOD, White House Farm, Stebbing, by Chelmsford, August 19th, 1892."

In Mr. Thorogood's own case the disease was indigestion and dyspepsia, which poisoned his blood and caused the carbuncles, which are growths on the underlying layers of the skin. After the Syrup had purified his blood they were absorbed and expelled from the system. The effect of the remedy in the cases of the other members of his family shows (what we have often stated), viz., that *influenza attacks those whose blood is filled with the poisonous acids thrown into the system by fermented food in the stomach*. Mr. Thorogood says his wife had been troubled with indigestion and dyspepsia, which was no doubt the case with the children also. Don't allow your blood to become a breeding-ground of disease. On the first signs of indigestion take Mother Seigel's Curative Syrup. You know the proverb about the ounce of prevention.

* Or present Uncovenanted Civil Medical Service, as it stands.

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Tuesday, 5th	,,	5 and 13	Wards	12, 15, 16, 17, 18
Wednesday, 6th	,,	6	,,	8 and 9
Thursday, 7th	,,	.....	,,	14 and 23
Friday, 8th	,,	10 and 24	,,	19
Saturday, 9th,	,,	20 and 21	,,	4
Monday, 11th	,,	2	,,	4 and 25
Tuesday, 12th	,,	2	,,	11
			,,	22
			At 12 noon.	
			Do.	
			Do.	
			Do.	
			Do.	

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W. R. MACDONALD,
Secretary to the Corporation.

MUNICIPAL OFFICE:
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VOL. XIV. CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 1895. WHOLE NO. 668.

CONTEMPORARY POETRY.

THE OLD CHURCH.

About five miles from the village of Smithfield, Isle of Wight county, Virginia, may be seen the ruins of an Episcopal Church, bearing every appearance of having been built in the earliest days of the colonies. In the bosom of a forest of ancient trees, lonely and drear, stand the remains of a once neat and even splendid temple of worship. The tower and belfry are truly antique, and the *butricesses*, a part of architecture not known in these days, bear every mark of the ravages of time. The ivy clings to the crumbling brick, and even trees of from twelve to fifteen feet in height, have taken root in the crevices, and yearly put on their green garments, and wave in the howling storm. The interior of the church presents a solemn view of the devastations of time, and the slow workings of the finger of decay. The altar and pulpit are, it is true, of more recent structure; but the Gothic character of the window, which once was ornamented with stained glass, though now "bricked in," proves the great antiquity of the edifice. Modern Vandals have made the walls a record of their names, their poetical abilities, and their wit; for it is a propensity to which most persons of the present age must plead guilty, to let their fellow-travellers to eternity know that they have held communion with times past and gone, by *honouring* a sacred relic with their attention.

The earliest record of this venerable pile is a resolution before the trustees of the church, to appropriate a certain sum for *repairs* of the building; and this was recorded over two hundred years ago. During the war, the building became the quarters for the British troops, who destroyed the stained window glass, and otherwise desecrated the sacred walls. Religious service was held in the building a few years back, but it now appears to be totally abandoned to the ravages of decay, the owl and the bat being the only tenants of its moss-covered walls. Some time since a number of citizens, curious to know something of its origin, dug at the four angles, for the purpose of finding the corner stone, and "removing the deposits," but without success. Under the aisle were found the bones of a human being, supposed to be those of one of the original pastors, who died within the remembrance of an old negro man, upwards of one hundred years of age.

More recently the following lines were written within the walls of the venerable curch.

I stand within the forest drear,
A clear blue sky is o'er my head;
The gnarled oak, with leaves all sere,
Looks down upon the sleeping dead.
The broken slab no record bears
Of those who lie the turf beneath;
And thro' the pine's mysterious airs
The winds of winter seem to breathe.

The lizard and the adder sleep
Beneath the cold and crumbling stone;
And ivy tendrils, as they creep,
Seem uttering, "Alone—alone!"
Alone! the dreary wind replies;
Alone! the forest monarch groans
Alone! the gurgling streamlet sighs;
Alone! reecho dead men's bones.

Aye—all alone! thou dreary pile!
Forsken by the human throng,
Who once passed up thy hallowed aisle,
And praised our God in heavenly song.
The owlet hoots where holy priest
Breathed strains of pious eloquence,
And minister'd the sacred feast
To Christians bent in penitence.

The bell no longer calls to prayers,
Or blithely rings the nuptial peal;
Thy worshippers—long sleep is theirs!
And death hath fixed the lover's seal.
The living linger round thy walls
To hold communion with the dead,
And hear the spirit voice that calls
The wearied to a calmer bed.

J. H. H.

DEAFNESS. An essay describing a really genuine Cure for Deafness, Singing in Ears, &c., no matter how severe or long-standing, will be sent post free.—Artificial Ear-drums and similar appliances entirely superseded. Address THOMAS KEMPE, Victoria Chambers, 19, Southampton Buildings, Holborn, London.

WEEKLYANA.

Miss Laura A. Smith contributes a paper to the *Nineteenth Century* on the Music of Japan. She says:—

"Like most nations, the Japanese have had their war songs from the time they had any existence as a people, but we are told that the lyrics which were used by the soldiers in the time of the first great Emperor of Japan, Jimmu Tenno, 660 B.C., were particularly rhythmical and finished. Japanese songs, with the exception of the heroic or historical ones, are all short, and when these are sung in times of peace they are set to the Koto.

The first of these up-to-date martial songs is entitled:

'Gallant Warriors.

If warriors go to war by land, the turf shall receive the bodies of the slain. If warriors go to war by sea, the ocean shall receive the bodies of the slain. From time immemorial our gallant warriors have gone forth in swarms. Human life lasts but for fifty years; who would wish to purchase a few miserable years of life at the cost of dishonour? March and fire as long as breath remains, for our lives are at the disposal of the Sovereign, our bodies are to be sacrificed to the glory of the country: let soldiers die with all their wounds in front. The souls of those who thus defy Death shall be through the ages to come the guardian angels of Oriental tranquility. So, go forth, go forth, ye warriors; warriors, go forth!'

The second battle song, which is distinctly of very recent date, is:

'To Pekin.

China is a country where in bygone days teachings of sages prevailed; but as time rolled on the country has become retrogressive. It boasts of itself as the Celestial Kingdom, but its heart is barbarous and is the very reverse of celestial. Till its ignorance is dispelled the

Subscribers in the country are requested to remit by postal money orders, if possible, as the safest and most convenient medium, particularly as it ensures acknowledgment through the Department. No other receipt will be given, any other being unnecessary and likely to cause confusion.

sky of the Orient must ever be dark. Now is the time to plant the flag of the Rising Sun on the walls of Pekin, and to illuminate its darkness. This is the duty of our glorious Empire, the Land of the Rising Sun. Go forth, go forth, Imperial Army! March in emulation till Pekin is taken."

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THE, Japanese National Anthem "Kimi-Ga-Yo" (Reign of my Sovereign) is thus translated by Mrs. Antonia Williams.

May our Emperor's reign endure,
Stand increasingly secure.
True and fast shall it last
Till a million years have past.
Thus shall he praised be to eternity.

Just as leaves by autumn sown,
Red and fair to earth are blown,
Just as these never cease
Year by year to shed their peace,
Thus shall he reign to see eternity.

***

MISS Smith continues :—

"The two following lyrics are excellent specimens of Japanese songs, the first being especially popular with the almond-eyed Mousmee, with whose charms Sir Edwin Arnold has made us so familiar :

Yes! eager is my longing
To look upon thy face,
With thee some words to speak!
But this I must renounce ;
For should it in my dwelling
Once chance to be divulged
That I with thee had spoken,
Then grievous were the trouble
Would surely light on me :
For certain my good name
Were lost for evermore.

Song.

Upright in heart be thou and pure,
So shall the blessing of God
Through eternity be upon thee.
Clamorous prayers shall not avail,
But truly a clear conscience,
That worships and fears in silence.

The charming songlet which is so popular amongst the young people in the empire, known as "The Flower or the Maiden,' runs thus :

Last night the peach-blossom was watered by the rain ;
At dawn the pretty girl arose and left her chamber.
She plucked a peach-flower, and placed herself in front of her mirror,
To dispute the palm of beauty with it.
She asked a young man which of the two he deemed the more lovely,
The flower or the humble maiden ?
The young man replied :
'The beauty of the flower is incomparable.'
The young girl, hearing this, became angry ;
She crushed the flower between her hands,
Throwing it at his feet :
'I do not think this dead flower can be compared to a living person.
However, seigneur, if you wish to appreciate the charms of this flower,
I advise you to take her as your mistress.'"

***

THE Bengal Legislative Council meet today. Mr. Bourdillon will introduce a Bill for the segregation or rather aggregation of pauper lepers. Following Bombay, Bengal is now prepared to confine lepers in Asylums. The Bill defines a leper to be any person suffering from any variety of leprosy in whom the process of ulceration has commenced. A pauper leper means a leper (*a*) who has in a public place solicited alms, exposed or exhibited any sores, wounds, bodily ailment or deformity with the object of exciting charity, or of obtaining alms, or (*b*) who is at large without any ostensible means of subistence. The police will arrest without warrant any person who may appear to be a pauper leper. When so arrested he is to be taken, in the first instance, to the medical officer to be appointed by Government as Inspector of Lepers. If found to be a leper, he will be next marched to a special Magistrate, who, if satisfied that he is a leper and a pauper, will send him over to the Superintendent of a Leper Asylum with instructions to receive the leper into his custody and safely to keep him in the Asylum until discharged by order of the Asylum Board. Lepers are also to be debarred from carrying on certain trades. With this object, Municipalities are to be empowered to make bye-laws "prohibiting any person who is reasonably believed to be a leper from carrying on any specified trade or calling within the limits of, or any specified limits within, the Municipalities, unless and until he has obtained from an Inspector of Lepers a certificate" that he is not a leper as defined by the Lepers Act, 1895, as the proposed law is to be called.

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DR. Lethbridge has been renominated an Additional Member of the Viceroy's Council for making laws. It is an unconditional appointment and will run for the full term of two years.

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CANDIDATES for the Matriculation Examination of the London University to be held in Calcutta in June next, are required to apply to the office of the Director of Public Instruction, Bengal, by the 28th February.

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LORD William Beresford, who, though out of office, still clings to India for old love, leaves for home earlier than was previously announced. He sails from Bombay on the 23rd February. The haste is said to be due to the indisposition of the Marchioness of Waterford.

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THE Lord Mayor and Shertffs of Dublin have petitioned the House of Commons for release of the Irish political prisoners.

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DR. W. E. Grigsby, President of the District Court, Paphos, Cyprus, is engaged in a translation of the Meijdille, or Turkish Civil Code, from the authorized Greek edition, into English, with notes and references to the Roman, French, and English law.

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WE read in an English paper of the 25th January that Viscount Wolseley will start for india next month, travelling by the P. and O steamer *Australia*.

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ACCORDING to Lloyd's Register,

"During 1894, 614 vessels of 1,046,508 tons gross—namely 549 steamers of 964,926 tons and 65 sailing vessels of 81,582 tons—were launched in the United Kingdom, this being exclusive of warships. The warships launched at both Government and private yards amounted to 31 of 32,971 tons displacement. The total output of the United Kingdom for the year was, therefore, 645 vessels of 1,079,479 tons. The output of the year in the United Kingdom exceeded that of 1893 by more than 210,000 tons, and the proportion of steam tonnage to the total tonnage launched was much higher. In 1892 sailing tonnage formed no less than 24 per cent. of the output, in 1893 it formed 14 per cent., and in 1894 it formed less than 8 per cent. There were built abroad during the year 148 steamers of 203,279 tons and 170 sailing vessels of 73,751 tons. If to these figures be added those for the United Kingdom, the total output of the world during 1894 (exclusive of warships) appears to have been about 1,324,000 tons (1,168,000 steam, 156,000 sail). The wreck returns show that the seagoing tonnage of all nationalities totally lost, broken up, &c., in the course of twelve months amounted to about 692,000 tons (278,000 steam, 414,000 sail). It will thus be seen that, while the sailing tonnage of the world was largely reduced during 1894, there was a net increase in the world's mercantile tonnage of upwards of 632,000 tons. Of this total, the net increase in the tonnage of the United Kingdom, as stated above, represents about 68 per cent."

***

ALTHOUGH false, artificial teeth are of great use. But you must make a proper selection of your dentist.

"A patient consulted his doctor on account of a severe pain in his tongue. But the sufferer was assured that there was nothing the matter. He then paid a visit to his dentist, who informed him that his teeth were perfectly sound. Being, however, dissatisfied, he called upon an electrician whom he knew, and asked if it were possible that he could have any electricity in his mouth. On examining the teeth his friend found that two metals were used to fix them to a composition plate. To these metals wires were then attached and connected to a galvanometer. Then the teeth were replaced in the patient's mouth and the metals moistened with saliva. No sooner was this done than the galvanometer showed quite a large current from so small a source—enough, it is stated, to cause ulceration and severe pain when long continued upon so sensitive an organ as the tongue. The plate was covered with an insulating varnish, and thenceforward all the trouble ceased."

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THE *Morning Post of India* writes :—

"We are being continually asked to say a good word in 'your valuable columns' for this and that journalistic venture. Some enterprising, though usually inexperienced, soul or other seems to bring out a new paper almost every week. It appears for a couple or three months, and then is lost to sight if not to memory dear. How is it possible to re-

commend journals that on the face of them cannot hope to exist? We should like to give them a pat on the back, but to do so would be to assist in a frand on the public who pay their annual subscription, and perhaps have to remain content with half-a-dozen issues. In these circumstances it is impossible for us to say anything that might be construed into a recommendation of the latest candidate in the field. The *Indian Observer* is to appear at Cawnpore appropriately enough on April 1st. Its prospectus is glowing in the extreme. The paper intends to assail the 'corruption that festers every where unchecked and undetected' in these Provinces, and to severely attack the 'blight of official cold-shoulder.' It will not confine itself 'simply to matters political, commercial, and educational, but the cause of social and moral reform will also be dear to its heart.' But it will not be dear to its subscribers, if it obtain any. They are to have the *Observer* for the magnificent sum of Rs. 3 (three) per annum, postage paid. Perhaps there is a bright particular genius in cheap newspaper production on the management. If so, and he will advise us how to get out the *Post* for less than Rs. 40 per copy per annum, we shall be happy to give him a very handsome bonus."

Cheapness and a promise to purge the country of all evils, are not the only recommendations of such ventures in Indian journalism. In addition to the paper, the subscribers are rewarded with prizes in the shape of books, &c. Another new feature is an Insurance scheme in which the heir of a subscriber is promised a sum much larger than the price of the paper paid for. But all these advantages have been cast into the shade by the offer recently made by a Bengali periodical, which is nothing less than the payment of Rupees one hundred to the nominee of a subscriber who may chance to be struck dead by lightning, or who may die of such accidents as drowning or the bite of a snake or of a mad dog, or a Railway collision, or a fracture or dislocation caused by a tram-car, a cab, a brougham, or a phaeton running over him, provided the deceased can be proved to have a copy of the periodical with him at the time of the accident. Considering how exposed man always is to dangers on flood and field, the periodical referred to ought to have a very large number of subscribers.

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THE *Indian Daily News* writes :—

"A good deal of uncertainty still exists over the vexed question of the title of 'Honourable' bestowed upon members of Council and other officials. Under the rules now in force the title holds good in all parts of the British Empire, so that a man who has a right to it in India or Australia is equally entitled to it at home. Once a member of this Government has resigned, however, his right to the title as a general rule drops, though certain exceptions are made which have provoked a good deal of criticism. In a recent *London Gazette* it is notified that 'The Queen has been pleased to approve of the retention of the title of 'Honourable' by William Edward Maumon, Esq., on his quitting office after more than three years' service as a member of the Executive Council of the Colony of Western Australia.' This has been taken up by a writer in the London *Times*, who not unnaturally asks why, if such titles are granted in the case of Western Australia, the same should not be done for those who have served in similar capacities in India, and who undoubtedly have at least an equal claim that they hold office under the Queen's sign manual, and that, too, in a country of vastly greater political importance than Australia now is. As a matter of fact, however, no such privilege exists in India, though one of the commonest of mistakes is to continue to address an ex-member of the Viceroy's Legislative Council as the Hon'ble Mr. So-and-so after his term of office has expired. In the case of Australia, as explained by an evidently well-informed writer in one of the home papers, the facts are 'that in 1863 Sir Dominick Daly, Governor of South Australia, represented to the Duke of Newcastle, Secretary of State for the Colonies, that certain members of the Executive Council had expressed a desire to retain the prefix of "Honourable" after they ceased to hold office. He mentioned that a similar privilege had been awarded in Canada and elsewhere, and expressed his opinion that it might with advantage be applied to Australia and allowed retrospective effect.

'The Secretary of State held, however, that so long as the title was an object of ambition to leading colonists, it seemed desirable that it should remain a reward for political eminence, but it would cease to be an object of desire were it conferred promiscuously on all persons whom chance might for a time introduce into any colonial Ministry. He therefore thought that the right to retain the title after quitting office should be granted with a certain reserve and only on the recommendation of the Governor, with the understanding that Her Majesty should not be advised to sanction the retention of the title unless the retiring councillor had been three years a member of a colonial Government or for one year at the head of it.' This seems reasonable enough so far as Australia is concerned, but why the same privilege should not be extended to India is difficult to understand. The case would seem to be on all fours with that of Volunteer officers who have earned the military titles so much begrudged them by actual hard work of an exceedingly self-denying nature, but who are denied the right to utilize these titles fully after the manner of their professional brethren in arms."

Our contemporary does not quite see the risks of the extension of the privilege to India. The Game of the Gazette is already working much mischief and it is not desirable that it should be given a wider latitude. Already, with many, once an "Honourable," "Honourable" ever afterwards.

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THE planet Mars has its seasons, ust lik the earth, such his to discovery of Mr. Percival Lowell, the American Astronomer. But there is a difference. Mars has a smaller water supply than Terra, and has to wait until the ice of the polar caps is melted in order to get a proper circulation of that life-giving liquid. These observations were made last June, July, and August, and refer to the southern hemisphere of the planet, but it is probable that similar changes occur six months later in the northern hemisphere. The south polar snow cap, Mr. Lowell observed, was in May surrounded as it melted with a dark-blue border of water, which increased for a time, then diminished to a slender thread in August. With the melting appeared long narrow straits or channels of a darker tint than the existing seas. It is, therefore, doubted whether the so-called seas are really so. These areas were darkest (a bluish green) when the melting of the snow began, and afterwards grew lighter, changing colour until they became an orange yellow. Moreover, their boundaries grew very vague. Mr. Lowell concludes that the flood and its ebb caused these alterations. On Oct. 13 the southern ice cap vanished altogether, leaving a yellow tint over the whole south polar region. The yellow tinge is ascribed to vegetation, produced by the fertilisation of low-lying districts under the flood water.

NOTES & LEADERETTES,

OUR OWN NEWS,

&

THE WEEK'S TELEGRAMS IN BRIEF, WITH OCCASIONAL COMMENTS.

EXTRAORDINARY cold still prevails in England and the Continent. The weather is described as resembling an Arctic winter. The Thames and Scheldt are frozen. The distress and suffering among the poorer classes are greatly increasing. A fire broke out in the West India Docks on the 8th. Before being subdued it destroyed two jute and coir sheds, a large warehouse, a steamer and several barges lying near. Also nine barges were damaged, as they could not be removed, owing to the severe weather having frozen them to the side of the quay. The total damage is estimated at forty thousand pounds.

Much interest has been caused in London by the fact that six hundred Grenadier Guards were drilled on the ice on the Serpentine. The severity of the weather continues unabated.

A correspondent writing from Holyhead on the 22nd January says "I am feeling the cold more than usual, also the wind is unusually high."

IN the Houses of Commons, on the 8th, during the Debate on the Address in reply to the Speech from the Throne, Mr. Jeffreys, Member for Basingstoke, moved an amendment that "in view of the gravest apprehensions existing regarding the disastrous condition of agriculture, the depression of textile and other industries, and the increase in the number of unemployed, this House regrets that Ministers do not appreciate the gravity of the situation." After a warm debate, in the course of which Mr. Shaw Lefevre advocated spending twenty millions on the Government scheme of light railways, the amendment was rejected by a majority of twelve amidst considerable excitement. The Parnellites voted with the minority. It is arranged that Mr. Chamberlain moves the Opposition amendment deprecating that the time of Parliament should be occupied in discussing measures without any prospect of passing them, and demanding an immediate submission of the resolution dealing with the House of Lords. On the 11th, Mr. Redmond introduced an amendment praying that Parliament be dissolved for the purpose of submitting the question of Home Rule to the decision of the country. The amendment was rejected by 256 against 236 votes. Mr. Balfour, the leader of the Opposition, made a declaration stating that he supported Mr. Redmond's amendment solely because he desired to bring about a dissolution of Parliament. On the 12th Mr. Dadabhai Naoroji moved an amendment to make Great Britain bear a fair proportion of the cost of the employment of Europeans in India; also of the military and political operations in cases where Imperial interests were concerned. The Secretary of State for India admitted the serious difficulties that exist between the Exchequers of India and England regarding the proportion of expenditure to be borne by each Government. He was desirous of a full and complete inquiry being held, but the form

which it should be undertaken was not yet decided. Mr. Fowler thought that perhaps the best method would be to appoint a small Royal Commission. On this assurance, the amendment was withdrawn. Parliament may be dissolved and the Commission not appointed. Still the admission of injustice to India in quarters from which we expect justice, is something. Next day, Mr. John Clancy, Member for Dublin, moved an amendment that a general amnesty should be granted to the dynamiters now undergoing imprisonment. Government opposed the amendment, Mr. Asquith declaring that such crimes were too atrocious to be classed as political offences, and that the time for considering the question of an amnesty had not arrived. The amendment was ultimately rejected by 300 votes against 111.

IN the House of Lords on February 14, a debate took place on Uganda. Lords Rosebery stated that Government was prepared almost at any moment to commence the railway, but reserved the right to determine the time of the beginning of the railway or any portion of the line. Lord Kimberley said that he had every reason to believe that the people were satisfied with British rule. Colonel Colvill said that the protectorate should not be extended though it was necessary to occupy Unyoro.

THE Chinese Envoys have left Japan. It is stated that full powers were not sent from Pekin to enable them to renew the negotiations of peace. The Viceroy Li-Hung-Chang has been restored to power with full honours. He has been summoned to Pekin prior to starting for Japan to renew the negotiations for peace.

NEWS received in London states that Linkungtao Island was captured on the 7th instant. In the engagement between the Japanese and Chinese fleets a torpedo flotilla belonging to the former destroyed most of the Chinese warships. Details of the naval fight at Weihaiwei show that thirteen Chinese torpedo boats attempted to escape from the harbour, ten were captured, two sunk, and only one managed to get away. The Japanese despatches report that several of their torpedo boats which carried out the attack on the Chinese ships on the nights of the 5th and 6th instant, have been sunk or disabled. It is believed that altogether six Chinese warships were destroyed by torpedoes, but some uncertainty prevails owing to the similarity of names. The present situation is thus described: All the forts on the mainland are in the hands of the Japanese, and those on Zhis Island have been silenced. The Chinese warships Tingyuen, Laiyuen, Chingyuen, and Waiyuen have been sunk and thirteen torpedo boats destroyed and captured. The remainder of the Chinese fleet including the iron-clad Chenyuen and the forts in Linkungtao Island are still holding out. Japanese despatches received from Wei-hai-wei, dated the 9th instant, show that the forts in Linkungtao Island, also the Chinese warships in harbour were then holding out. The Chinese cruiser Chingyuen was sunk on the 9th by shells fired from the forts on the mainland, captured by the Japanese. Messrs. Tabu and Son, of Bombay, received a telegram on the 14th from their Tokyo correspondent informing them of the capture of Wei-hai-wei by the Japanese. Four vessels of the Chinese fleet have been destroyed by Japanese torpedoes, and the rest have surrendered. The latest report is that Admiral Ting has sent a gunboat to the Commander of the Japanese fleet with a flag of truce offering to surrender provided the safety and lives of the sailors, soldiers, and foreigners at Wei-hai-wei are guaranteed.

PRESIDENT Cleveland sent a message to Congress recommending the issue of sixty-two and a half million dollars, thirty years, four per cent. bonds, payable in coin, with the option of substituting them for three per cent. bonds payable in gold. The House of Representatives has rejected the proposal.

THE Porte after long hesitation has granted permission to newspaper reporters to proceed to any place in Armenia with the exception of Bitlis. The Armenian Commission of Enquiry is sitting at Moosh.

DEAFNESS COMPLETELY CURED! Any person suffering from Deafness, Noises in the Head, &c., may learn of a new, simple treatment, which is proving very successful in completely curing cases of all kinds. Full particulars, including many unsolicited testimonials and newspaper press notices, will be sent post free on application The system is, without doubt, the most successful ever brought before the public. Address, Aural Specialist, Albany Buildings, 39, Victoria Street, Westminster, London, S. W.

A STREET mob in Alexandria set upon and severely beat three marines belonging to the cruiser Scout. The attack was entirely unprovoked. Nineteen assailants were arrested, and severe sentences passed on three of the ringleaders.

THE Egyptian Budget statement has been published, and the revenue of the past year exceeded the expenditure by £790,000 Egyptian. The surplus for 1895 is estimated at £660,000 Egyptian.

IT is reported that a French expedition operating against the Chief Samory in West Africa has suffered a serious reverse. Colonel Montiel, commanding the force, has in consequence been superseded.

IN a conflict between a detachment of French troops and the Siamese at Kammoun, on the left bank on the Mekong, a French officer has been severely wounded.

MESSRS. Brock, Dibley, Wright, Theobald and F. Moses Coldwells, the latter an M.P. for North Lambeth, the five Directors of the Balfour Companies, against whom summonses were recently issued, were brought up at the Guildhall charged with fraud and conspiracy. The prosecution is being conducted by the Treasury.

THE Glasgow Chamber of Commerce has resolved to petition Government for the abolition of the customs duty on low counts of Turkey red coloured yarns imported into Burma. Otherwise the Scotch trade will be killed.

A GREAT meeting of the cotton Employers and Operatives organised to protest against the imposition of cotton duties in India was held on February 14 in London. Among those present were twenty-six members of the House of Commons. A resolution was passed demanding a full debate in Parliament on the subject of the cotton duties.

THE Secretary of State for India in reply to a question in the House of Commons said he believed that the report of the Opium Commission would be presented to Parliament before Easter.

WE learn by the last mail that Professor Rhys Davids has gone over to America and is delivering a series of lectures on "The Literature and Religion of India." They will of course be published in book form. The first part of the work, we are told, will be occupied with consideration of the teachers of India and their influence on India and in the West. Next, the Buddhist books and their history will be examined, and after them "The Vedas as Literature" will come under survey. Other chapters will deal with "The Life of Buddha," "The Buddha's Secret," &c. The Professor is believed to be a great Buddhist scholar and is certainly deserving of the credit due to the founder of the Pali Text Society. He is famous as a translator of Pali books and a writer on Buddhism. But besides Pali and a bit of Sanskrit, he knows no other Eastern language. For the lectures in America, he will receive an honorarium of £600. He was lately awarded a pension of £200 from the Civil List. As Secretary of the Royal Asiatic Society he draws a salary of £250, and is enabled as such to push his Pali Text Society of which he is the mainstay. We hope the Professor will not, in course of his American lectures refer to what Sir Edwin Arnold has called "an act of historical justice" by making over the shrine of Bodh-Gya to "a representative committee" of Asiatic and American Buddhists, Sir Edwin Arnold's game having been played out.

A NEIGHBOURING Press—the Standard—has issued a cheap and unauthorized edition of the "Speeches by the Marquis of Lansdowne, Viceroy and Governor General of India. 1888-18894". In the volume occur almost all the addresses delivered by the Marquis during his term. The name of neither the printer nor the publisher appears. But the modest publisher adds a preface of two pages explaining that his book "contains all the important speeches of his Lordship during the period," that they "will bear favourable comparison with those of his illustrious predecessors, whether as specimens of the oratorical art or otherwise," and that "the speeches have also considerable historical value, inasmuch as they

form explanations of the Government of its policy in regard to most of its important measures." Each speech or address is prefaced by a short note giving the circumstances under which, and the occasion when, it was made. The volume opens with the reply to the address of welcome by the Bombay Corporation, and concludes with that to the toast of the Viceroy's health at the Farewell Dinner at the Royal Exchange, Calcutta. Lord Lansdowne is a good speaker and, while Viceroy of India, availed himself of the many opportunities the office offered for speaking. The book cannot, therefore, fail to be valuable. As an Indian publication it has its blemishes, and although not a "standard" one, it is not unworthy of a gentleman's table.

IT was only the other day that the Statutory Civilian Kumar Gopendra Krishna was confirmed as Inspector-General of Registration, Bengal. But he is not to continue in the place. He had hoped that with the confirmation he would receive increased pay —the pay of the place as payable to a native of this country. Government, however, would not grant it to him, unless he chose to revert to the Provincial Service. The Kumar had accepted the officiating appointment on a pay less than what he was drawing. Now that it is to remain the same, he has resigned. This renders a chance of Nawab Syud Ameer Hossein again coming in, if he can, and be allowed to, withdraw his refusal to be the Inspector-General on a less pay than Rs. 1,500. If the Nawab is not solicitous of the dignity, or cannot have it, the place ought to be offered to Moulvi Abdul Jubbar, unless he has made his arrangements for the pilgrimage to Mecca. Government has not behaved justly with that experienced and conscientious officer. In his last days of service, this may be some reparation of the neglect shewn him.

THE Nator appeal has been heard and partially decided. The sentence of six months on the Raja's servant has been confirmed. No order has been passed as to the Raja himself.

FULL Dress and Evening Dress have been prescribed for the Chapters at Government House on Thursday, the 7th March. The gates will be closed at 9-15 P.M., after which no carriages will be allowed into the Government House compound till the ceremony commencing at 9 30 is over.

THERE is panic in town on account of small-pox which rages violently. There were during the week ending 9th February, 58 deaths from that disease or 21 more than in the previous seven days. There is nothing to shew how many were the attacks during the two weeks. Cholera too has not abated. The deaths from that cause during the three successive weeks ending 9th February, were 20, 36 and 20. Many, again, are being carried away by remittent fever. The prevalence of the fever suggests an enquiry into the condition of our sewers. Are they all right? At night the narrow streets and lanes are impassable on account of the poisonous gas, which insidiously penetrating into houses, attack the unwary sleeping inmates.

REIS & RAYYET.

Saturday, February 16, 1895.

ONCE A CRIMINAL ALWAYS A CRIMINAL.

ANY one acquainted with the miseries of socalled old offenders after release from jail, must hail with joy the benevolent and statesmanlike steps taken in the North-Western Provinces to protect these unfortunate men from the harassment and oppression to which they are generally subjected. Persons once convicted of theft, house-breaking or a similar offence, are done for life and lost to all that is good and honest in this world. They are obliged to repeat the offence and remain criminals for the rest of their lives. They have no rest after their release from the prison as they are haunted like ghosts by the Police, who utilize them as menial servants or labourers for as many days as they like, and then send them to jail through the Magistrate. The process of recouping the jails with released convicts, whether the conviction be the first or the seventh, is very simple. The Police gets one old *sendmari* from the thanna Malkhana or somewhere else, or a brass pot from some shop-keeper, and sends up the old offender with two or three witnesses, one of whom is generally a constable or head-constable. Such a case, as a rule, is undefended, and it takes the Magistrate no time to get through it, when the accused is again safely lodged in the jail for a year or two, and when he is committed to the Sessions he may get even more.

These men have no home in the practical sense of the word. They are shunned by their relatives and most cruelly treated by their neighbours. They sleep in old and deserted mosques, temples or thannas, when not housed in jails. If any of them happens to earn anything by labour or other honest means, the lion's share of that earning goes to the pocket of the constable of the beat. He cannot get or remain in any employment unless the master bribes, so to say, the Police. Oftentimes when himself owning a house he is not allowed to occupy it by his relatives or neighbours on his return from the jail, and if he insists upon his just rights, he is again sent up with handcuffs to the Magistrate to undergo another term of imprisonment. Thus homeless and friendless, old offenders commit theft not for love or money, but to get a pass for re-admission to the house of correction. Many of them have said so in Court and to jail visitors. If they get proper protection against oppression and encouragement to follow some profession or industry which they know or have learnt in jail, they will in most cases do honest work. There is no doubt that a large number of them can be reclaimed, if proper steps are taken for giving them a start in life. Here are two instances out of many. An old man of sixty who was probably convicted a short time after the mutiny, was employed by the present writer as a punkha puller. He lived in the Mahalla and there was no report of any kind against his conduct for nearly a quarter of century. He was, again, too old for committing any serious crime. As soon, however, as this man was employed, the constable of the beat got scent of it, and asked him to contribute something from his pay for the thanna people. He refused to pay as he thought that he could not be reasonably treated as an old offender after the lapse of so many years. Soon after the constables commenced to harass his employer. They called at unusual hours to be satisfied as to his presence in the house. The Police annoyed the master so much by nocturnal visits that he was obliged to dismiss the man.

Another "old offender" was subjected to still greater hardships by the Police. After his release, he lived at the house of his brother who was willing to support him. But the Police was always at his heels, and the annoyance became intolerable. It being suggested that the poor victim of Police should do some sort of work in order to earn his livelihood independently, his brother bought him an *Ekka* or country cab and with a horse he had, he started him as an Ekkawalla. He had carried on this business for some time when the Police again came down upon him and demanded its share of the earning, which demand increased more and more. On his refusal at last to share with the Police his hard-earned money, the cab was one day seized as stolen property and the poor

fellow himself was sent up for trial as a thief. As no one claimed the horse, the Magistrate who was an experienced officer released the horse and the owner, but the man was kept out of his business for nearly ten days and kept in Hajat. After some months that man was obliged to sell his cab and horse and to leave his native city for some distant district.

In Bengal, where the executive maxim, "no conviction, no promotion" rings in the ears of judicial officers from Buxar to Cox Bazar, the question of reclaiming "old offenders" (as they are indiscriminately called whether they are new or old) and providing them with the means of earning an honest livelihood, assumes a peculiar interest, and its significance becomes greater than in any other Province. It is no secret to the Government or the public that a large number of these men are annually made to swell the population of our jails as the most convenient way to maintain a show of activity on the part of the Police and to secure rapid promotion.

The case of the Maghai Domes of Behar shows that the reclamation of criminal classes is not quite impossible. Many of these who were made to colonize in Champaran and Saran are now honest cultivators and artizans.

If Government is not inclined to do anything for the miserable class technically called "old offenders" and is afraid of reducing the population of the jails, which are gradually becoming profitable concerns, what is the use of repeating the process of releasing them from the jail and again readmitting them within a short time? This automatic process increases the work of the Police, puts the public to unnecessary trouble and fear, and teaches the people to bring false charges and to perjure in order to avoid the displeasure of the keepers of public peace.

From what is known of the socalled old offenders, a good many of them are deserving of the helping hand of philanthropists. But the extent of their misery and trouble being generally unknown, they now find very little sympathy. We too in Bengal should have a society for protecting and helping released prisoners. As in the North-Western Provinces, the Government here may take the initiative in the matter. If help be required from the public, we are sure it will be given in every form.

THE PROTECTION OF ATTACHED ESTATES.

A GAP IN THE LAW.

A CASE recently decided by the Calcutta High Court illustrates the singularly defective character of the law regarding the management of estates attached by a Criminal Court in India. The particulars are interesting from more than one point of view. The well-known firm of iron-mongers in Calcutta, Messrs. S. K. Dwan and Co., are owners of certain valuable collieries, known by the name of the Seebpore and Kanthee collieries, at Ranigunge. It would seem that the proprietors had given a lease of these collieries to a European company for a period of 8 months. There was a clause in the lease binding the lessors to sell the property under certain conditions to the lessees. On the expiration of the period of the lease, a dispute occurred between the parties, the lessees refusing to give up possession and insisting on their right to purchase the property, the lessors demanding possession and refusing to sell as the conditions of the contract had been broken. Within Ranigunge, throughout the coal districts, the power of the European capitalists is supreme. In the present case, however, they found Messrs. S. K. Dawn & Co. an ugly customer, for the native firm succeeded very adroitly in dispossessing the lessees. For the first time, a native proprietor was seen to be able to assert, without the intervention of the Civil Court, his rights, as understood by him, against a European firm backed by all its influence. Dispossessed skilfully but quietly, the lessees applied to the local Criminal Court. The Magistrate, in a careful judgment, confirmed Messrs. S. K. Dwan & Co. in their possession, referring the lessees to the Civil Court for assertion of their rights. So far as the claims of summary and substantial justice were concerned, the Magistrate's decision could not be held to ignore them. Messrs. Dawn were the admitted owners. They had spent a large sum of money in laying tramways and planting machines. The European firm based its claim upon an agreement to purchase. The lease had admittedly expired. The claim to further possession was founded upon a contract whose validity having been denied by the lessors required to be established in a court of law. Admitting to its fullest extent the validity of the agreement to sell, it should be remembered that the sale had not actually been effected. A suit for specific performance of the contract was the only remedy open to the lessees. The Magistrate's decision enabled the proprietors to work the mine. The lessees carried the matter to the High Court. The evidence that had been adduced before the lower Court showed that although the lessors had been working the mine yet a portion of the Office buildings was still under the legal possession of the lessees. On this ground the High Court held that as it was not quite clear that the proprietors were in possession of the collieries in their entirety, an order of attachment should issue under Section 146 of the Code of Criminal Procedure. A Criminal Court making an order of attachment under this Section, is powerless to pass any order regarding the protection or management of the attached property. Under the law of the land, the Executive Government must step in and manage the property agreeably to the provisions of Act XL of 1858. There are some forms of property, however, notably a colliery, an Indigo factory, and the like, to which that Act cannot be made to apply. A colliery or an Indigo factory, to be protected *ad interim*, should be managed as it is ordinarily managed. It would require funds to manage it. There is no provision in the Act under which Government can advance such funds. Nor can the Collector be allowed to convert himself into a Superintendent of a coal mine or of an Indigo factory. As regards the latter, there may be valuable crops standing on the field and requiring to be cut down without delay and borne to the factory vats. Or, plants may be already in a state of partial decomposition in the vats. Or, the material may be in such a state that one or two more processes only are needed for converting it into the blue dye of value. A sudden suspension of operations therefore, in an Indigo factory may mean the total loss of the outturn of the year. A similar suspension of operations in a partially worked coal mine, may bring about absolute destruction of the property. The water, it is well known, that daily accumulates at the bottom requires to be daily pumped out. If allowed to accumu-

The Indian Association for the Cultivation of Science.

210, Bow-Bazar Street, Calcutta.

(Session 1894-95.)

Practical Class in Chemistry under Babu Ram Chandra Datta, F.C.S., on Monday, the 18th Inst., at 4-15 P. M. *Subject:* Copper and Bismuth. On Tuesday, the 19th Inst., at 4-15 P. M. *Subject:* Arsenious and Arsenic Salts. On Wednesday, the 20th Inst., at 4-15 P. M. *Subject:* Antimony. On Thursday, the 21st Inst., at 4-15 P. M. *Subject:* Stannous and Stannic Salt. On Friday, the 22nd Inst., at 4-15 P. M. *Subject:* Aluminium and Chromium Salt.

Lecture by Mr. B. Chaudhuri, B. A., B. Sc., on Monday, the 18th Inst., at 5-30 P. M. *Subject:* Origin of Species.

Lecture by Dr. Nilratan Sarkar, M. A., M. D., on Wednesday, the 20th Inst., at 5-30 P. M. *Subject:* Carbo Hydrates.

Lecture by Babu Syamadas Mukherjee, M. A., on Thursday, the 21st Inst., at 4 P. M. *Subject:* Theory of Reciprocal Polars (continued).

Lecture by Mr. B. Chaudhuri, B. A., B. Sc., on Thursday, the 21st Inst., at 5-30 P. M. *Subject:* Connective Tissue.

Lecture by Dr. Nilratan Sircar, M. A., M. D., on Thursday, the 21st Inst., at 6 30 P. M. *Subject:* Vascular System.

Admission Fee, Rs. 4 for Physics, and Rs. 4 for Chemistry; Rs. 6 for both Physics and Chemistry; Rs. 4 for Physiology; Rs. 4 for General Biology; Rs. 6 for complete course of Physiology and Biology. The charge for a single lecture is 2 Annas.

MAHENDRA LAL SIRCAR, M.D.,

February 16, 1895. *Honorary Secretary.*

late for only a few days, the supports or pillars may be so thoroughly soaked and weakened as to give way when the pumping is begun for working the mine again.

As regards the Seebpore and Kanthee mines, the Collector has, after the order of attachment made by the High Court, suspended their working. The pumps even have been stopped. The result has been that the mines have begun to fill with water. The admitted proprietors, seeing the peril to their property, have applied to the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal for the prompt issue of an order allowing the pumps to be worked. Their interest to protect the property is presumably much greater than that of their late lessees who only wish to purchase it. Indeed, however eager the wish may now be of the lessees to purchase, it is certain that that wish will evaporate if the property be destroyed through the inaction of the Executive Government. Considerations of justice require that the order should be immediately given for the draining of the mines. The proprietors are willing to incur the necessary expenditure. The lessees, if their claim be ultimately upheld by the Civil Court, will be gainers by this. Surely, the law exists for the people and their possessions. The latter do not exist for the law. The very object the Judges had in view in issuing the order of attachment must be presumed to be the protection of the property in its entirety, so that the party who may ultimately be adjudged to have its control may have it unimpaired or without its value being at all deteriorated. That object is sure to be baffled if the Executive Government chooses to act with supineness. Overworked as the Chief Secretary of the Bengal Government undoubtedly is, and busy as he must be with high and wise schemes pregnant with the seeds of the immediate regeneration of dusky humanity, it is not too much to expect that he will devote a minute to the reasonable prayer of the proprietors of such a valuable concern.

In view, again, of the defect of the law for regulating the keep of property attached by Courts under Section 146 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, rules should be enacted without delay that may apply to all forms of property. Or, if legislation be needed, Act XL of 1858 should receive the necessary amendments. We have shown how an Indigo factory, if attached, may be substantially injured unless provision is made for going on with its work in the usual way. As regards collieries also, if their working be suddenly suspended, they are as likely to be substantially injured. A large number of coolies is necessary to work a mine. It requires a mint of money, if a colliery be extensive, to collect together the number of workmen needed. Advances have to be made which are gradually recovered. In the case of these mines, a large sum of money is still owing to the proprietors from the workmen. By suspending work, the advances become irrecoverable. The machines, again, by being stopped, become liable to diverse kinds of injury. As the Collector cannot be expected to work a coal mine or an Indigo factory with advances from the public treasury, why not have recourse to a system of leasing? A mine or a factory may be leased to either of the disputing parties. The appointment of a receiver who will work them with funds of his own and deposit the value of the entire outturn with a margin of profit to himself cannot be a sound principle. The system of farming upon a quit-rent which may be held in deposit for ultimate appropriation agreeably to the orders of the Civil Court, seems to be unobjectionable. In their petition to the Lieutenant-Governor, the proprietors had offered to manage the colliery on whatever terms the Government thought fit. They were in no need of pocketing the profits immediately. They were perfectly willing to work the mine incurring the necessary outlay and depositing every rupee of the sale proceeds with the Collector.

We may take advantage of the present opportunity for making a few remarks upon the law about possessory orders passed by Courts of Criminal jurisdiction. The rule invariably applied is that possession, if proved, should be allowed to continue till a Civil Court of competent jurisdiction decides otherwise. In most cases the application of the rule becomes certainly salutary. But there are cases in which injurious effects become obvious. A lease expires. The lessee, unwilling to give up the land, opposes the re-entry of the proprietor. The Criminal Court, if appealed to, will, under the law, confirm the lessee in his possession, leaving the proprietor to seek his remedy in the Civil Court. Preservation of the public peace is the justification of such an order. Is it not, however, opposed to what may be called the principles of natural justice? Is it not more consonant with our ideas of *meum* and *tuum* to permit the re-entry on the admitted expiration of the contract, leaving the lessee to substantiate his claim in the Civil Court? Public peace can hardly be endangered by an order to that effect. Sometimes an order confirming present possession leads to considerable injury. So far as the public peace is concerned, it may be maintained, as already said, by supporting either of the parties. The absolute refusal to examine title is a feature of the proceeding that accords very little with the demands of even summary justice. If a statement were drawn up showing in how many cases possessory orders of the Criminal Courts have been set aside in consequence of final decisions of the Civil Courts, important lessons might be deduced from it. Meanwhile, it may be urged that the plea is not so weak as some may imagine that we put forward on behalf of a summary examination of title even by inferior Criminal Courts when exercising jurisdiction under the possessory sections of the Code.

THE HISTORY AND ETHNOLOGY OF BURDWAN.*

This book, or rather booklet, of 64 pages of letter-press, does not profess to give an exhaustive account of the district, which it purposes to speak of. The object of the author, as explained by the title of the work, is to present before the public "some historical and ethnical aspects of the district of Burdwan."

In dealing with the ethnology of the district, the author refers to the numerical preponderance of Bágdis and Sadgopas in its population. He gives due importance to the latter, observing very rightly that "many of them occupy high social positions." The theory, however, that the Aguris are the product of unions between the Kshetris of the Burdwan Raj family and the Sadgopas of the Gopbhum dynasty, is not only highly offensive to both the parties concerned and especially to the Aguris, but appears to be unsupported by any kind of proof, historical or ethnological. Mr. Oldham says that his theory is based upon admissions made by the Aguris themselves. Knowing what we do of them, it seems to us impossible that any of them would have given such a humiliating account of their origin. At any rate, according to the principles of the law of evidence recognized by almost every system of jurisprudence, an admission cannot be necessarily conclusive. In the case under consideration, there are very strong reasons why, in spite of Mr. Oldham's certifying it as properly recorded, the so-called admission should be rejected altogether. The ground on which we base this view is that there are many Aguri families whose history is well known to extend to a far earlier period than the time of even Abu Roy and Babu Roy, the founders of the Burdwan house. Then, again, the ethnic and moral characteristics of the Aguris clearly mark them out as a separate community, unlike any other caste to be found in Bengal. They are, by nature, hot-tempered, and incapable of bearing

* *Some Historical and Ethnical Aspects of the Burdwan District with an Explanatory Index*, by W. B. Oldham, C.I.E., of the Indian Civil Service, Calcutta: Printed at the Bengal Secretariat Press. 1894. Not printed for sale.

subordination, while the Kshetris and Sadgopas whom Mr. Oldham supposes to be their progenitors, are endowed by qualities the very opposite of these. A Kshetri would do anything to secure the good graces of his master. But a single word of censure or comment, though reasonable and proceeding from a person vested with authority, would cause the Aguri's blood to boil, and urge him to desperate deeds. The supposed admixture of Sadgopa blood with that of the Kshetri cannot account for these peculiarities in the moral character of their alleged progeny, except on the theory that when both the father and mother are of a mild nature, the child, by some law of physiological chemistry, must be fierce and hot-tempered. The Sadgopas belong to a lower stratum of society than the Kshetris. But their moral characteristics are almost identical, though, perhaps, a Sadgopa will not go to the same length to please his master as a Kshetri will go. The strongest argument against Mr. Oldham's theory is afforded by the fact that, unlike the other leading castes, the Kshetris recognise to some extent their connection with the bastard members of their clan. The illegitimate sons of the Bramhans, Rajputs, and of even the superior Sudra castes, have no recognized position whatever. The only alternative of the mother and the child in such cases is to adopt the faith of one of the latter-day prophets, and to be members of the casteless Vaishnav community. Among the Kshetris the practice is very different. Their illegitimate progeny have a recognized, though a lower, status. They are called Puriwals, and certainly not Aguris.

From a historical point of view, the most important families of the Burdwan district are the Rajput Zemindars settled on the banks of the Damodar. Mr. Oldham does not, however, say anything about their colonization, or about the several families in the district whose ancestors held important offices in the service of the Mogul Emperors of Delhi. No mention is made even of Dewan Manik Chand, who was commander-in-chief of the army at the head of which Seeraj-ud-Dowla invaded Calcutta, and a portion of whose mansion is still to be found by the side of the palace of the Maharaja of Burdwan. With regard to the history of the Burdwan Raj, only some passing references are made here and there. Nothing is said about its origin, or any of the events that affected it materially. A description of the manner in which a firm of shawl and silk merchants managed to acquire almost sovereign power over a principality at least as large as Wales, ought certainly to have been regarded by its historian as a necessary and legitimate part of the work undertaken by him. Mr. Oldham says nothing on the subject, and he is equally silent on the insurrection of Sobha Sing which wellnigh crushed the Raj at one time, as also the depredations of the Mahrattas which threatened at a subsequent period to upset the affairs of the whole province.

A comprehensive history of the intrigues and mismanagement by which the great Zemindars of our country have been and are being brought to grief, however interesting and instructive it might be, could hardly be written without exposing the author to very serious risks. But in connection with the Burdwan Raj, Mr. Oldham might, without incurring such danger, have given an account of the splendid machiavelism by which its employes managed to have more than one-third of its great Zemindari sold for arrears of revenue at the beginning of the present century. Some of them became great landholders themselves by purchasing the sold out portions. The reticence about the viceroyalty of the Prince Imperial, Azim Oshan, who made Burdwan his head-quarters, is more excusable, though an enquiry as to the particular part of the town where he used to reside and hold his court, cannot but be regarded with interest by many. If the necessary investigations were made, it would, perhaps, appear that the Durbar hall of the Mogul Proconsul was exactly on the site of the Matab Manzil, and that the dilapidated mansion which is now occupied by the descendants of Dewan Manick Chand was originally built for the grandson of Aurangzebe. The tomb of the heroic but ill-fated Shere Afghan, the first husband of the celebrated Noor Jehan, is still in existence. The author has nothing to say about him or his spouse who, as consort of Jehangir, subsequently became the virtual ruler of India. To justify such omission it may be said that the book under notice does not profess to give a complete history or ethnological account of the district. The reader is puzzled to find out the *raison d'être* of its appearance. Fragmentary books are good when they embody the results of any original research. The kind of originality which Mr. Oldham has displayed in his attempt to establish that the Bágdis of Burdwan were the Gangaridæ of Megasthenes, or that pergunna Gopbhum was at one time subject to the rule of a Sadgop dynasty of kings, does not, we fear, satisfy the condition on which the publication of a book like his can be held to be justifiable. What appears to us most objectionable in the book is the tone in which Sir William Hunter's valuable works are spoken of. There are, no doubt, many errors and omissions in the Statistical Accounts and the other works of that great author. That is, however, necessarily the case with first editions of all books dealing with topics of wide scope. But to speak disparagingly of Sir William Hunter sounds something like the insolence of ignorance, or the flippancy of thoughtlessness. The Indian Civil Service cannot, in its long history, boast of another such name.

A word as to the Index. It is certainly as full as good Indexes generally go. Sir Charles Elliott, however, it is said, was so charmed with this booklet in spite of its conspicuous omissions, that he set the author to compile a careful index.

A SANITARY PRIMER.*

This is a booklet in Bengali on sanitation, carefully compiled from ancient medical works in Sanskrit. It has been often remarked that Hinduism is a vast system of personal hygiene. The great work of Punarvasu, revised by Charaka, is more a treatise on the method of keeping health than one on disease and its cure. At least, a very large portion of "Charaka" is devoted to the consideration of health. The peculiarity of Babu Amrita Lal Chatterjee's little book is that most of the lessons it inculcates are entirely based upon "Charaka" and other medical and even religious works of ancient India. The observations on early rising, and the duties that should be gone through in the morning, would do good to every one to read and practice. The chapter on cleanliness is full of interesting matter. We cannot do better than give a summary of the contents of the pages. The mere headings will show what the reader may expect. The different ways of bathing, *viz.*, in ponds and rivers by immersing the whole body, or in water fetched from ponds and rivers, or in that collected in masonry tanks, the results that may be expected from each of these methods of bathing, the difference of results due to difference of water used for bathing, the time of bathing, the prohibitions in respect of bathing, rubbing the body with oil, the different kinds of oil that should be used, general observations on cleanliness, the differences of dress or attire in view of the difference of seasons, the diverse rules that should be observed in cooking, the prohibitions respecting persons that should not be employed as cooks, the vessels that should be used, the manner of keeping the food after it has been cooked, the kind of water that should be used in cooking, the rules to be observed in respect of eating, the kind of articles that should be eaten, the measure of eating, what should be done after eating, the properties of some of the principal kinds of food, such as eggs and diverse kinds of meat, the properties of different varieties of fruits, of pease, of cheese, of ghee, of oil, of serum,

Swásthya Sopána, Part I, or instructions on the method of keeping health from Ayurvedic treatises of Rishis; compiled by Amrita Lal Chatterjee, and published from 3, Kumartooli Street, Calcutta. 1301 B. S.

of marrow, of sugar, of honey, of pot-herbs, and of water, the methods of correcting the faults of water, the usefulness of sleep, the hours of sleep, the prohibitions in respect of sleep, excessive sleep, the utility of physical exercise, the necessity of pure air, and the methods by which air may be purified, have all been set forth in a style that is simple and suited to the comprehension of even boys and girls. Babu Chatterjee having taken care to include nothing but what occurs in the sacred and medical books of India, there is every hope of the people accepting the instructions laid down. There are more pretentious works on the subject, based on principles affirmed by Western Science. In point of immediate usefulness, however, such works are certainly inferior to Chatterjee's booklet. India is conservative to the backbone. The food that used to be taken in the days of Manu and the Mahabharata is still taken by the people. The hours also of eating and the methods of cooking are still the same. The same methods are still observed in our baths. Accordingly, an interest, at once theoretical and practical, attaches to the observations of the Rishis---the fathers of Indian hygiene. Chatterjee does not belong to the Education Department, and hence it is useless to hope for the book being ever placed in the hands of the school-going population. Those, however, who wish to know what their forefathers thought of the everyday concerns of life, and who have not the leisure to look into the scattered chapters of voluminous works in Sanskrit, will find much of their contents skilfully reproduced in *Swásthya Sopána*.

A PRIVY COUNCIL APPEAL.

VALIDITY OF "WAKFS."

JUDGMENT of the Lords of the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council on the Appeal of Abul Fata Mahomed Ishak and others *vs.* Russomoy Dhur Chowdhry and others, from a decision of the Hon'ble L. R. Tottenham and the Hon'ble E. J. Treveleyan, Judges in the High Court of Judicature at Fort William in Bengal, delivered 15th December 1894.

Present :---Lord Watson, Lord Hobhouse, Lord Shand, and Sir Richard Couch.

[*Delivered by Lord Hobhouse.*].

The object of this suit is to establish as a valid wakfnama a settlement of property effected by deed dated the 21st December 1868. The settlors were two brothers called Abdur Rahman and Abdool Kadir, Mahomedan gentlemen, belonging to the Hanifa sect of the Sunnis. The plaintiffs, now appellants, are sons of Abdur Rahman, to whom interests are given by the settlement. The defendants, a hundred and more in number, are the settlors themselves, and persons claiming interests in portions of the settled property by virtue of transactions with Abdur Rahman subsequently to the date of the settlement. Some of these claimants are respondents to the present appeal.

The Subordinate Judge of Sylhet held that the settlement was valid as a wakfnama, and gave the plaintiffs a decree on that footing. On appeal the High Court took a different view, and dismissed the suit. The great mass of the record relates to subordinate disputes ---what parcels of property fall within the settlement, and what inferences are to be drawn from the way in which the settlors dealt with the property after the settlement. But the only question argued here has been the nature of the settlement itself ; for in the view taken by their Lordships all others are immaterial.

The settlement begins thus :---"Committing ourselves to the mercy and kindness of the Great God, and relying upon the bounty of Providence for the perpetuation of the names of our forefathers and for the preservation of our properties we . . . . have made this permanent wakf according to our Mahomedan law." Then they describe the property conveyed by them. The objects are :---

"For the benefit of our children, the children of our children, and the members and relatives of our family and their descendants in male and female lines, and in their absence, for the benefit of the poor and beggars and widows and orphans of Sylhet, on valid conditions and true declarations hereinafter set forth below. We two brothers, have for our lifetime taken upon ourselves the management and supervision of the same in the capacity of matwalis, and taken out the wakf properties from our ownership and enjoyment in a private capacity, and we have put them in our possession and under our control in our capacity as matwalis."

Then are stated various incidents and duties attaching to the office of matwali, amongst which occur the following :---

"In order to maintain the name and prestige of our family, we, the matwalis, will make reasonable and suitable expenses according to our means and position in life. We will at our own choice and discretion fix allowances for the support and maintenance of the persons intended to be benefitted by this wakf, who are now living or who may be born afterwards, and we will pay the same to them every month, and also the expenses for their festive and mourning ceremonies, when required.

"It will be competent for the matwalis and our successor matwalis to enhance or reduce the allowances of the persons for whose benefit the wakf is made, who are now living, or who may hereafter be born, in consideration of course of their position and circumstances and the state of the income of the wakf properties. It will be competent for us the present matwalis and the matwalis who will be appointed after us, to use the wakf properties as security and to grant putni, durbutni and permanent and temporary ijara settlements in respect of them, and with the money to be received as salami for the aforesaid settlements, to purchase some other properties and to exchange any of the lands of this wakf with some other lands, and to include the lands so acquired by purchase or in exchange in the wakf, and to spend the profit of the same towards the expenses of the wakf, and to keep the surplus profit in stock in the tehbil, and to try always to increase the wakf properties and the amount in cash. Whatever properties may be acquired by us, the matwalis and our successor matwalis, after execution of this document, shall be included in this wakf. We, the matwalis and the matwalis who will be appointed in our place hereafter, shall have no power to make gift of any property in favor of relatives or strangers."

It is provided that future matwalis shall always be chosen from the male issue of the settlors, or if they fail, from their relatives. Provisions are made to prevent any of the persons for whose benefit the wakf is made from claiming anything as of right, and from calling for accounts, and from alienating his interest or subjecting it to attachment. And towards the end of the deed its object is again stated :---

"The object of this wakf of properties is that the properties may be protected against all risks, the name and the prestige of the family maintained, and the profits of these properties appropriated towards the maintenance of the name and prestige of the family in support of the persons for whose benefit the wakf is made, and religious purposes, &c."

Such is the instrument which is propounded as a wakfnama. The motives stated are, regard for the family name, and preservation of the property in the family. Every specific trust is for some member of the family. The family is to be aggrandised by accumulations of surpluses, and apparently by absorption into the settlement of after-acquired properties ; and no person is to have any right of calling the managers to account. These possessions are to be secured for ever for the enjoyment of the family, so far as the settlors could accomplish such a result, by provisions that nobody's share shall be alienated, or be attached for his debts. There is no reference to religion unless it be the invocation of the Deity to perpetuate the family name and to preserve their property, and the casual mention of unspecified religious purposes, &c., at the end of the sentence least quoted. There is a gift to the poor and to widows and orphans, but they are to take nothing, not even surplus income, until the total extinction of the blood of the settlors, whether lineal or collateral.

It seems that in the High Court the learned Advocate-General contended for the plaintiffs that a gift to the donors' descendants without any mention of the poor might be supported as a wakf; and even that the Mahomedan law intends that perpetual family settlements may be made in the name of religious trusts. In the case of *Ahsanulla Chowdhry vs. Amarchand Kundu* (17 L. R. Ind. App. p. 37) this Board said "They have not been referred to, nor can they find, any authority showing that, according to Mahomedan law, a gift is good as a wakf unless there is a substantial dedication of the property to charitable uses at some period of time or other." The Board proceeded to affirm the decision of the High Court of Calcutta who held that a small part of the property had been well devoted to charity, but that as to the bulk of it, the settlement was, notwithstanding some expressions importing a Wakf, in substance nothing but a family settlement in perpetuity, and as such contrary to Mahomedan law. The principle of this decision has been quoted and approved in a subsequent case *Abdul Gafur vs. Nizamudin* (19 L. R. Ind. App. p. 170.) This is a sufficient answer to the arguments used in the High Court.

Their Lordships, however, cannot now say that they have not been referred to any authority for the contrary opinion ; for Mr. Branson has cited to them two cases in which there are very elaborate judgments delivered in the Calcutta High Court by the learned Judge, Mr. Ameer Ali.

Those judgments are in accordance with the opinion expressed by him in his Tagore Lectures, and if their Lordships have rightly apprehended them, they do go the whole length of the Advocate General's argument. One is in the case of *Meer Mahomed Israil Khan* vs. *Saibti Churn Ghose* (19 Ind. L. R. Cal. p. 412), where there were some immediate gifts to the poor, and the gift was upheld, and no further appeal was presented. The other case is that of

Bikani Mia vs. *Shuk Lal Poddar* (20 Ind. L. R. Cal. p. 116), where there was no gift to the poor till after the failure of the settlor's family. It was heard by a full Bench of five Judges, who decided that the deed was invalid, Mr. Justice Ameer Ali dissenting.

The opinion of that learned Mahomedan lawyer is founded, as their Lordships understand it, upon texts of an abstract character, and upon precedents very imperfectly stated. For instance, he quotes a precept of the Prophet Mahomet himself, to the effect that "A pious offering to one's family to provide against their getting into want, is more pious than giving alms to beggars. The most excellent of *sadakah* is that which a man bestows upon his family." And by way of precedent he refers to the gift of a house in wakf or *sadakah*, of which the revenues were to be received by the descendants of the donor Arkan (20 Ind. L. R. Cal. 140.) His other old authorities are of the same kind.

As regards precedents, their Lordships ought to know a great deal more in detail about them before judging whether they would be applicable at all. They hear of the bare gift and its maintenance, but nothing about the circumstances of the property---except that in the case cited, the house seems to have been regarded with special reverence---or of the family, or of the donor. As regards precepts which are held up as the fundamental principles of Mahomedan law, their Lordships are not forgetting how far law and religion are mixed up together in the Mahomedan communities; but they asked during the argument how it comes about that by the general law of Islam, at least as known in India, simple gifts by a private person to remote unborn generations of descendants, succession that is of inalienable life interests, are forbidden; and whether it is to be taken that the very same dispositions, which are illegal when made by ordinary words of gift, become legal if only the settlor says that they are made as wakf, in the name of God, or for the sake of the poor. To those questions no answer was given or attempted, nor can their Lordships see any. It is true that the donor's absolute interest in the property is curtailed and becomes a life interest; that is to say, the wakfnama makes him take as mutwali or manager. But he is in that position for life; he may spend the income at his will, and no one is to call him to account. That amount of change in the position of the ownership is exactly in accordance with a design to create a perpetuity in the family, and indeed is necessary for the immediate accomplishment of such a design. Among the very elaborate arguments and judgment reported in *Bikani Mia's* case, some doubts are expressed whether cases of this kind are governed by Mahomedan law; and it is Suggested that the decision in *Ashanulla Chowdhry's* case displaced the Mahomedan law in favour of English law. Clearly the Mahomedan law ought to govern a purely Mahomedan disposition of property. Their Lordships have endeavoured to the best of their ability to ascertain and apply the Mahomedan law as known and administered in India, but they cannot find that it is in accordance with the absolute, and as it seems to them extravagant, application of abstract precepts taken from the mouth of the Prophet. Those precepts may be excellent in their proper application. They may, for aught their Lordships know, have had their effect in moulding the law and practice of wakf, as the learned Judge says they have. But it would be doing wrong to the great lawgiver to suppose that he is thereby commending gifts for which the donor exercises no self-denial; in which he takes back with one hand what he appears to put away with the other; which are to form the centre of attraction for accumulations of income and further accession of family property; which carefully protect so-called managers from being called to account; which seek to give to the donors and their family the enjoyment of property free from all liability to creditors; and which do not seek the benefit of others beyond the use of empty words.

Mr. Branson, indeed, did not contend for such sweeping conclusions, though, as in duty bound, he submitted the arguments which led up to them. But he argued that where, as in this case, there is an ultimate gift for the poor, a perpetual family settlement expressly made as wakf is legal. He had a right to argue that point as not being covered by the decision in *Ahsanulla Chowdhry's* case. This Board expressly left it open, because they found that contradictory views had been taken in India, and they did not desire to enter into that controversy in a case where the facts did not raise it. The facts of this case do raise it.

Having examined the authorities cited, their Lordships find a great preponderance against the contentions of the appellants. Some authorities go so far as to hold that for a valid wakf the property should be solely dedicated to pious uses. On that point, however, this Board in *Ahsanulla Chowdhry's* case adopted the opinion of Mr. Justice Kemp to the effect that provision for the family out of the grantor's property may be consistent with the gift of it as wakf. In favour of the view now urged for the appellants, there is the judicial opinion of Mr. Justice Ameer Ali in *Bikani Mia's* case, dissenting from the rest of the Court; a *dictum* of Sir Raymond West in the Bombay High Court in the case of *Fatima Bibi vs. The Advocate-General of Bombay* (6 Ind. L. R. Bomb. p. 53) and a decision of Mr. Justice Farran in the same Court in the case of *Amrutlal Kakdas vs. Shaik Husain* (11 Ind. L. R. Bomb. p. 492) The weight of Mr. Justice Ameer Ali's opinion on this subordinate point is somewhat lessened by his support of the gift under consideration on the very broad grounds which their Lordships have considered to be untenable. The *dictum* of Sir R. West is mentioned in *Ahsanulla Chowdhry's* case. Mr. Justice Farran had before him a case very closely resembling the present one. He described the settlement as "a perpetuity of the worst and most pernicious kind, and would be invalid on that ground unless it can be supported as a *wakfnama*" (11 Ind. L. R. Bomb. p. 497), and he thought that the authority of the Hedaya is against it; but he adopted the principle stated by Sir R. West, which he treated as a decision, and he supported the gift on the strength of the ultimate trust for the poor.

Their Lordships cannot assent to these conclusions. They make words of more regard than things, and form more than substance. In their judgment the Calcutta High Court have in this case rightly decided that there is no substantial gift to the poor. A gift may be illusory whether from its small amount or from its uncertainty and remoteness. If a man were to settle a crore of rupees, and provide ten for the poor, that would be at once recognized as illusory. It is equally illusory to make a provision for the poor under which they are not entitled to receive a rupee till after the total extinction of a family; possibly not for hundreds of years; possibly not until the property had vanished away under the wasting agencies of litigation or maladministration or misfortune; certainly not as long as there exists on the earth one of those objects whom the donors really cared to maintain in a high position. Their Lordships agree that the poor have been put into this settlement merely to give it a colour of piety, and so to legalize arrangements meant to serve for the aggrandizement of a family.

They will humbly advise Her Majesty to dismiss this appeal with costs.

THE BIRDSWHISTLED "THE DEAD MARCH."

"Even the birds on the trees learned to whistle the 'Dead March.'"

It was an old soldier who was talking. "We were in camp," he said, "in a flat, malarious part of the country. Our Colonel was a splendid fighter, but didn't appear to have any idea of sanitary matters. Just then we were in more danger from disease than from the enemy. Presently fever broke out and the men died by the dozen. Hardly a day but we buried some of them in the swamp. In fact, we played the "Dead March" so often that I used to fancy the birds in the trees had learned to whistle it. "Awful sorry, you know, boys," said our Colonel, "but so long as we have to stay here, we can't help having the fever." Yet the Colonel was wrong, as another regiment camped near us almost wholly escaped. But then commander fought the malaria with sanitation and preventive medicine. That made the difference."

In January, 1892, the influenza was epidemic at Stebbing, near Chelmsford. Among the persons attacked were Mrs. Abram Thorogood of White House Farm, her daughter Annie, and her sons William and Ernest. They had terrible pains in the head, sore muscles and joints, and were very feverish. The whole four—mother and three children—were confined to their beds.

In a letter on the subject Mr. Thorogood says: "my wife became quite delirious; she did not know where she was, and could neither get in nor out of bed. I gave Mother Seigel's Curative Syrup to all of them with excellent results, the fever soon left them, and shortly they were well and strong as ever, and have since remained so. I may mention that many neighbours and friends had the same complaint as my wife and family, but although the others had doctors and the best attention and advice, none recovered so rapidly as my people did. I thank God that I came to hear of Mother Seigel's Curative Syrup, for although we are a family of seven, living at home, during the eight years I have kept it in the house we have not needed a doctor, thus saving many pounds in doctors' bills and costly prescriptions.

"The way I first used Seigel's Syrup was this: In the spring of 1883 I began to feel ill and out of sorts. My tongue was dreadfully coated and a thick phlegm covered my gums and teeth. After eating I suffered from pain at the chest and stomach. I had bad nights, and sweat so much that in the morning *my underclothing was soaked with moisture*. In the following August carbuncles came on the back of my neck, on my nose, and on my cheek bone. What I suffered I cannot describe. I got so low and weak that I could barely crawl about. The doctors did me no good. And as for their physic I might as well have taken tea or water. In pain and suffering I lingered on until I heard, through a neighbour, of Mother Seigel's Curative Syrup and got a bottle from Mr. W. Linsell, grocer, of Stebbing. A few doses relieved me, and soon the carbuncles disappeared, and I was well as ever. Yours truly, (Signed) ABRAM THOROGOOD, White House Farm, Stebbing, by Chelmsford, August 19th, 1892."

In Mr. Thorogood's own case the disease was indigestion and dyspepsia, which poisoned his blood and caused the carbuncles, which are growths on the underlying layers of the skin. After the Syrup had purified his blood they were absorbed and expelled from the system. The effect of the remedy in the cases of the other members of his family shows (what we have often stated), viz., that *influenza attacks those whose blood is filled with the poisonous acids thrown into the system by fermented food in the stomach*. Mr. Thorogood says his wife had been troubled with indigestion and dyspepsia, which was no doubt the case with the children also. Don't allow your blood to become a breeding-ground of disease. On the first signs of indigestion take Mother Seigel's Curative Syrup. You know the proverb about the ounce of prevention.

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(PRINCE & PEASANT)

WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

VOL. XIV. CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 1895. WHOLE NO. 663.

CONTEMPORARY POETRY.

THE DEATH OF FRANCIA.

BY W. BRAILSFORD.

WHEN Raffaelle sent his famous St. Cecilia to Bologna, it was entrusted to the care of La Francia, who was his particular friend, to be unpacked and hung up. La Francia was old, and had for many years held a high rank in his profession; no sooner had he cast his eyes on the St. Cecilia, than, struck with despair at seeing his highest efforts so immeasurably outdone, he was seized with a deep melancholy, and died shortly after.—*Diary of an Ennuyée.*

As the long shadow falls
At fading eve, when some soft note recalls
The old home voices happy childhood heard,
Upon a heart that fame's high impulse stirred,
The presence of the beautiful appalls,
And casts all old day-dreams to Lethe's brim,
As fancies vague and dim.

O, weary heart of thine,
High genius! wherefore shouldst thou grieve, yet pine,
The laurel crown and votive wreath to wear?
Why falter in your path, and fear to share
One guerdon of the soul-fed art divine?
It is not thus that man's declared intent
Should lapse in banishment.

What has thy spirit bowed
In this thy winter?—what majestic cloud?
Vision!—which hides thy proud heart's dearest dream,
Which makes reality unearthly seem,
And the true efforts of thy life dost shroud.
Thus fall the flowers that bloomed so fresh and fair,
All perishing in air.

Ah, the sad verity
That overcomes men's minds, and wills to be
The shadow o'er their paths of love and life,
The slayer of the fame whose ways are strife,
Where legions run the race in company.
O, certain light of truth, thy rays dispel
Hopes erst invincible!

Thus fled the mystic faith
That is art's incense and its vital breath;
Thus died La Francia as some star outshone,
Over whose sphere a brighter light had grown,
And in the full eclipse had welcomed death,
Dimmed by the lustre of another's sheen,
And fading all unseen.

Yet is it well to die?
To let life's purpose yield the victory;
To die, and leave each passionate desire,
As some new tones half trembling on the lyre,
Or bud that folds its cup all silently;
To die, and pass away like some frail flower
Or wonder for an hour.

Faint not upon your way,
You who would hold o'er human hearts time's sway;
Is it not meet that those who yearn to wear
Fame's immortality, should fairly bear
The cares and turmoils of life's working day,
That thus when night proclaims her sable reign,
Their wishes prove not vain?

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WEEKLYANA.

EARLY in the week we received the following telegram from Hyderabad in the Deccan:—

"The public meeting held on Saturday last at the Public Gardens to consider Dr. Hart's scheme of sanitation for Mecca ended in confusion and disorder. About five thousand people were present. Nawab Vicar ul-Omra, the Prime Minister, presided, the Resident, several nobles and high officials being present. Dr. Lawrie introduced Dr Hart to the meeting. In his address Dr. Hart dwelt at length on the hardships and mortality to which pilgrims are exposed in their voyage to Mecca, during their residence in Mecca, and in the fulfilment of their duties both there and in Medina, and gave the details of his scheme of sanitation. The learned doctor was supported by an aged Moulvi but opposed by Mollah Abdul Quyumi, Deputy Inam Commissioner, who is held in high esteem and veneration by the people. The Mollah carried the audience with him and was frequently cheered and applauded. After the Mollah's speech the Chairman put the resolutions approving the Doctor's scheme to vote when the audience rose and vociferously cried out *namunzoor* (not approved)! Great confusion, disorder, uproar prevailed, and all attempts to restore order failing, the meeting dispersed without adopting the resoultions. Nawab Lokeman-ud-Dowla, Staff Surgeon to the Nizam, had sent a paper to be read at the meeting but the meeting having suddenly dispersed the paper was not read. The following is the purport of the paper. The Mahomedan scriptures enjoin no one should leave the locality infested with cholera nor should one come to it from a place that is not so infested. This command applies equally to those attacked with the disease as to those that are not. Although the cause of the disease

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is not yet exactly ascertained, it has been found by observation that good sanitation and supply of pure water help in lessening the strength of poison. When large numbers of people flock to a place and make indiscriminate use of impure water and food, cholera finds its way amongst them easily. In Mecca and Hardwar in 1892 and 1893 the disease committed the greatest havoc, but in the following year there was hardly any case. The efforts of Dr. Hart are highly praiseworthy if they are practicable. The Sultan is not styled the sovereign but the servant of the Holy City and the laws that govern the City are those ordained by the Prophet. The expenses of providing suitable drinking water to pilgrims are met from spontaneous public charities termed *sabil;* the same may be said of the food supply. Sanitary improvements are indeed urgently needed for the holy city. During the last twelve years great progress in this direction has, however, been made. It is proof that His Imperial Majesty the Sultan is not heedless of the hygienic needs of the place but much remains to be done. In 1893 His Majesty intended to depute some medical men to Mecca to enquire into the causes of the spread of cholera but when the inhabitants heard of their intended visit to the Zemzem, so indignant they became that they were prepared to fight. This is the reason why the Sultan is deterred from carrying out improvements forcibly. Before asking the Sultan and the Nizam to interfere in the matter of sanitation, vigorous steps should be taken to prevent cholera being imported from abroad. The ship St. John was one of the ships that carried cholera to Jeddah and thence to Mecca. The disease continued when the vessel was under quarantine. She was detained forty days at Kamran. The poorer portion of the pilgrims have to perform the voyage in the holds of ships where they are so packed that they have hardly breathing room. The hardships they suffer on board make them predisposed to any disease. Many die before reaching their destination notwithstanding supply of pure drinking water on board. One can imagine what must be the state when passengers are landed. Sanitary measures must be adopted from the moment the ships leave Indian shores and continued until they reach Jeddah. If anti-choleraic inoculation be really what it has been represented to be, it should be enforced on all pilgrims before they start. An able medical man should be sent along with the pilgrims by every State and Government as is done by the Nizam's Government. His duty should be to see that people drink pure filtered water, take good food and adopt other sanitary measures. The voyage in closely packed holds of pilgrim-laden ships and the evils of quarantine are alone sufficient to kill people. Such heavy loading should be forbidden. Every State and Government should send a Mahomedan doctor to Mecca to reside there permanently as has been done by the Nizam's Government to look after the health of the pilgrims and the permanent population of the city. A hospital for women and others should be established and kept up by an international charitable fund. When people have learnt the importance of scientific medical treatment they will themselves refrain from breaking the laws of health. Thus State interference would no longer be necessary When sanitary measures were first introduced in Hyderabad, people were opposed to them; but then ideas are now changed and they flock to our dispensaries for medical aid All this is the result of practical sanitary education. Before using force every effort should be made to make the people alive to the benefits by practical and ocular demonstration. Dr. Hart will have the support of every Mahomedan in adopting the measures pointed out above."

This report of the meeting is different from that in the *Englishman.* According to our contemporary, "A resolution was carried to urge the Nizam's Government to send qualified Mahomedan doctors with the pilgrims to submit a report of the sanitary conditions, and the Nizam to address the Sultan of Turkey for co-operation." It is difficult to know real facts, but specially about Hyderabad, where intrigues are incessant, where the lionized of one hour is the most detested at the next, where outward appearances are no indication of the inner working, where the object seems to be to raise a man to pull him down, where the son is opposed to the father, where fraternal love is not the rule, and where cousinly hate is most rampant.

DEAFNESS. An essay describing a really genuine Cure for Deafness, Singing in Ears, &c., no matter how severe or long-standing, will be sent post free.—Artificial Ear-drums and similar appliances entirely superseded. Address THOMAS KEMPE, VICTORIA CHAMBERS, 19, SOUTHAMPTON BUILDINGS, HOLBORN, LONDON.

We are not therefore surprised to find the Bangalore *Evening Mail* in its Hyderabad column anticipating the downfall of Nawab Server Jung, who only two years back, when he was appointed Peshi Secretary to the Nizam, was hailed as the deliverer of the Nizam's ill-fated dominions. It writes:—

"It is now rumoured—and the rumour is very strong in Hyderabad—that the days of Nawab Server Jung Server-ul-Mulk, as the Peshi Secretary to His Highness, are numbered, and that the Resident, Mr. Plowden, himself has found cause to be displeased with him. We are not sure what foundation there is for this rumour, but we have been assured that the rumour is hailed with joy by the people of Hyderabad. Except the near relations of Nawab Server Jung, who have been directly benefited by his sudden rise, we believe there is not a soul in Hyderabad who would not be glad to see him removed from his present exalted office. Indeed, it is a consummation devoutly to be wished, and the sooner it comes, the better for Hyderabad."

***

WE are sorry to record the death of Mr. R. C. Sterndale. Not belonging to the favoured service, he came into prominence as Vice-Chairman of the Suburban Municipality which he ruled with a strong hand, and ended as the Collector of Income Tax, Calcutta. In the meantime, he was the Cantonment Magistrate of Barrackpore. A man of general culture and wide sympathies, he did his work creditably, mixing with the people, and knowing their ways. He took an active part in volunteering and delighted more as a soldier and a magistrate than a collector of rates and taxes. He was given a military burial.

***

MR. A. S. Judge, District Superintendent of Police, Patna, has been appointed Collector of Income-Tax, Calcutta. He joined the Indian Service as Assistant Superintendent of Police in January 1880 and his experience has always been that of a Police officer and in the mofussil, except, we believe, on two occasions when he was posted at Howrah. In his new sphere we hope he will be guided by his own instincts and have an ear for all representations.

***

COLONEL P. D. Henderson's services having been replaced at the disposal of the Military Department, the Honourable Mr. W. Lee-Warner, C.S.I., of the Indian Civil Service, Secretary to the Government of Bombay in the Political, Special, Judicial and Educational Departments, Additional Member of the Council of the Governor-General for making Laws and Regulations, and the author of the Protected Native States, has been appointed a Resident of the 1st class and Resident in Mysore and Chief Commissioner of Coorg from the 20th February 1895. He will also be the Judicial Commissioner of Coorg. The Hon'ble Mr. G. W. Vidal has succeeded Mr. Lee Warner in the Bombay Secretariat.

***

MR. R. W. Frazer, B A., LL.B., late of the Madras Civil Service, who came out to India in November 1877 and retired in 1866, and has evidently retained his interest in India, recently delivered, at the London Institution, a lecture on Village Life in India. He spoke of the common agricultural folk in India, of the commercial problems of India, of the principal produce of the empire, and the great increase of jute. He further expressed the opinion that the Scotch jute spinners would not be able much longer to hold their own against Indian competition. Already we find that the Dundee Chamber of Commerce has given notice that its representatives at the annual meeting of the Association of Chambers of Commerce, to be held in London in March, will submit the following motion:—

"That this Association desires to draw the attention of the Secretary of State for India (1) to the injustice of the competition with the home textile industries permitted by the laxity of the Indian Factory Act as regards the long hours during which machinery, operated by women, young persons and children, may be wrought—22 hours by women and young persons, and 15 hours by children, as against 10 at home; (2) to the want of adequate and systematic inspection by officials trained and appointed to the work as required in the United Kingdom, and whether, even if such inspectors were set apart for this work, it would be possible to prevent the intentions of the Legislature as regards the working hours of women and children being exceeded where the shift system is in operation; and (3) whether the evils naturally incident to and experienced in the United Kingdom from the employment of women and young persons during the long hours and of night employment have been sufficiently considered in permitting, under the provisions of the shift system, a new industry so to develop itself. On these grounds the Chamber submits that factories conducted by subjects of the Crown and equally under the control of Parliament, whether in India or at home, should be subject to similar conditions; particularly that they should not be allowed to employ women, young persons, or children before six in the morning or after seven at night."

NOTES & LEADERETTES,
OUR OWN NEWS,
&
THE WEEK'S TELEGRAMS IN BRIEF, WITH OCCASIONAL COMMENTS.

LORD Salisbury, speaking at the Irish Loyalist Club on Feb. 16, said the union between the Conservatives and the Unionists was stronger than ever. The dissolution of Parliament must be taken on the single issue of Home Rule. The policy of the Government was a mixed appeal to the people and was insincere. The House of Lords would not resist a vote of the people in favour of Home Rule if the question was clearly submitted to the country. The same evening, in the House of Commons, Mr. Chamberlain moved an amendment demanding the immediate submission of a Government resolution dealing with the House of Lords, and said he did not hope for the defeat of the Government, but desired to expose their tactics in keeping back Home Rule, knowing that the country was opposed to the measure. Mr. Asquith declared that Home Rule was not at present a vital question. The Government was resolved to fulfil other pledges. The debate on the amendment was continued on the 18th. No special features were brought forward in the speeches, and on division the motion was rejected by 296 votes against 282. The Government next moved the closure on the debate on the Address, which was carried by a majority of eight votes, the result being loudly cheered by the Opposition. The Address in reply to the Speech from the Throne was afterwards voted.

THE Newmarket Bench has dismissed the summonses against the Jockey Club and refused to grant leave to appeal.

THE Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, in reply to a question, said that Great Britain had not recognised the right of pre-empton claimed by France in the Congo district.

A STRONG movement exists in Germany in favour of bimetallism. A debate has taken place in Reichstag on the question. Prince Hohenlohe, the German Chancellor, is disposed to consider the advisability of opening negotiations for an exchange of views between the Powers with the object of international measures being adopted. The Reichstag has passed a resolution calling upon the Government to convene an international monetary conference.

THE surrender at Wei-hai-wei is complete. The Chinese soldiers and sailors have been liberated, but the officers will be deported before being released. Of the foreigners all have leave to depart except an American named Hewie. Admiral Ting and the Commander of Liukungtao Island committed suicide. A Japanese ship has arrived at Chefoo with the bodies of Admiral Ting and other Chinese officials who committed suicide on the fall of Wei-hai-wei. All possible marks of respect and the greatest honours are being paid to the remains by the Japanese. Captain Yang, of the Chinese flagship, also shot himself as the Japanese came on board to take possession of the vessel at Wei-hai-wei. China asked Japan to send envoys to Port Arthur to meet the Viceroy Li Hung Chang for the discussion of peace proposals. The request has, of course, been refused. The Chinese Viceroy therefore proceeds direct to Japan.

The Chinese attacked Haicheng in Manchuria on the 16th inst., but were repulsed with heavy loss. The Japanese Government has made an application to Parliament for a further war loan of one hundred million yen.

INTRIGUES against Nubar Pasha and several other Ministers are daily becoming more pronounced, and the invectives of the Egyptian press more violent. The correspondent of the *Times*, telegraphing from Cairo, attributes this hostility wholly to the influence of the Khedive, who is determined to render impossible the existence of any Ministry that is prepared to co-operate loyally with the British control. It is believed that a deliberate attempt is being made to stimulate anti-European feeling among the Mahomedan population, which, it is feared, will lead to troubles during the Ramadan. In a leading article the journal points out the misfortune under which Egyyt suffers in having a Khedive with an incurably restless spirit, and says that it is idle to imagine that the European Powers interested in Egypt will allow the country to be governed, without guidance, by a young, inexperienced Prince. Great Britain desires to maintain the authority of the Khedive and to guarantee the dynasty, provided no attempts are made to subvert the system whereby the present solvency and prosperity of the country have been attained. A later telegram in the journal says that disquieting symptoms are discernible at Alexandria which recall to mind the events preceding the riots and massacres of Europeans by the Arabs in June, 1882. The correspondent adds that there is a great influx of Bedouins on the outskirts of Alexandria. An agent of the Khedive has been seen distributing largesse among the Bedouins, enlisting them for the Khedival bodyguard. The French newspapers attack Lord Cromer and the British policy in Egypt. The *Journal des Débats* publishes an article justifying the Khedive's discontentment with his Ministers, who, the paper adds, have become the champions of the discredited British policy. In English official quarters the situation in Egypt is viewed with the utmost calmness. Needless importance has been attached to some signs of disquietude, which will probably go no further.

MR. Henniker Heaton put a question to the Secretary of State for India regarding the statement made by Lord Elgin during the debate on the Tariff Bill explaining the mandate under which the Legislative Council was acting. Mr. Fowler, in reply, referred to the delicate and important subject raised in the question, and said that he was prepared at the proper time to maintain the course taken by the Government and Lord Elgin on recent occasions, which was strictly in accordance with the Acts of Parliament. Mr. Fowler promised to lay despatches of Lord Argyll and Lord Salisbury on the table of the House defining the position of the Secretary of State towards the Government of India.

THE Under-Secretary of State for India in the House of Lords on Feb. 19, expressed a hope that the report of the Opium Commission would be issued before the Easter recess. Lord Reay said that it was necessary to discuss a valuable paper contributed by a prominent Indian member of the Commission which had been received the day before.

IN the House of Commons, Mr. Fowler, in reply to a question, said that it was the intention of Government to proceed with the construction of railways in India as rapidly as their resources would permit, and also to employ private agencies for railway extension whenever terms were suitable. At the same time, he said, the Government did not see its way to giving an imperial guarantee for interest on the railways.

THE Prince of Wales caught a slight chill while skating, and was unable to be present at the Drawing-room. To-day he starts for the Riviera.

A NEW American loan is announced of sixty-two million dollars, bearing interest at the rate of four per cent., payable either in gold or silver. The loan was issued simultaneously in London and New York. The loan has been covered twenty times in London.

IN the House of Commons on the 19th a resolution moved by Mr. Howard Vincent to restrict the importation into England of the products of German prison labour, was carried without a division, the Government yielding after at first opposing the question.

IN the House of Commons, on Feb. 21, Sir Henry James moved the adjournment of the House in order to call attention to the recent fiscal measures passed by the Indian Legislative Council, and to inquire into the effects of the Indian cooton duties upon the trade of Lancashire. He said that that trade desired fair play for mutual industries, and he charged the Secretary of State for India with giving a ready ear to agitators instead of consulting the Lancashire manufacturers before sanctioning the taxation.

Mr. Fowler, in his reply, warmly denied the accusation, and eulogised the action of Lord Lansdowne and Sir James Westland. He repudiated the statement that her Majesty's Government had sacrificed

the interests of England by the re-imposition of the duties on Manchester goods, and declared that it was solely due to the deficit in the Indian Budget. He added that the duties were popular among the Natives and Europeans in India, and warned the House that discontent and danger to British rule would result from the removal of duties under Parliament's pressure. On his part he did not shrink from censure, but reminded the House that it was answerable to the people of India for any adverse decision at which it might arrive.

Mr Goschen said that it was imperative upon the House to take into consideration the feelings of India, and urged the Opposition to support the Government in the present instance.

On a division motion the adjournment of the House was rejected by 304 against 107 votes. An unusually pressing whip was issued by Government, owing to rumours that the members representing the Lancashire constituencies would support the motion. An analysis of the division list shows that several Radicals and Mr. Chaplin, and Lord George Hamilton voted with the minority. Mr. Chamberlain abstained from entering the division lobbies. Mr. Balfour being down with influenza was not present The *Times* remarks that the rejection of the motion though saving the Government from a disastrous defeat, saved in the meantime the Unionists from a serious calamity, and views the result as most gratifying to all who are desirous of seeing the exclusion of Indian questions from party conflict.

A CORRESPONDENT writing from London on the 1st February says :—The weather has set in excessively cold, accompanied with very severe gales which have caused considerable loss of life and destruction of property, while the snow-drifts have considerably retarded railway locomotion. Influenza has increased largely with the severe weather Yesterday a meeting was held at the London Chamber of Commerce when Lord Brassey read a paper on the Indian Currency question. While in the usual manner deploring the position in which India was placed by having to pay such excessive amounts for Home Charges, the only remedy he could recommend was the development of Indian railways and economy of expenditure and re-adjustment of charges. Any one not a born idiot will recognize these utterances as merely the platitudes of a politician.

Reuter's latest telegram on the subject says that the frost has now lasted twenty-seven days with more or less severity. Extreme distress prevails everywhere among the poorer classes. The coroners in London are holding scores of inquests every day on persons found dead from the cold.

THE Lady Elliott Portrait Fund is waxing bigger every day. Her admirers were very well advised in putting the scheme forward long before her husband's tenure of office came to a close. It is expected that so much as Rs. 10,000 will be collected, while about a third of it is required for the portrait, the balance being utilized as a present in a suitable form.

All classes have subscribed, the Europeans of course predominating. Lady Elliott's popularity must be great indeed to attract no less an Indian than the former candidate in the Radical interest for the constituency of Deptford, who, if he had won the confidence he so eagerly sought, would probably now be fighting with Mr. Labouchere with as much fervour for the abolition of the House of Lords and, indeed, on behalf of all the measures of the New Castle Programme.

THE Maharaja of Hutwa is expected in Calcutta early next month The Hastings House at Alipore is being fitted up for his residence.

THE statue of Sir Stewart Bayley is on its way to Calcutta. The bust of Mr Lawley has already arrived The first is the work of Mr. Hamo Thorneycroft and the second has been done by Mr. A. E. I. Rost, who having finished his education has just started as a sculptor at 20, Newman Street, Oxford Street, London, W Madras is for a statue to Sir T. Muthuswami Iyer, which the deceased Native Judge of the Madras High Court so richly deserves. Our friends down South may try Mr. Rost, who, having a reputation to make, pays special attention to his work. His charges, besides, are moderate.

Another statue for Calcutta—that of Lord Roberts—has nearly been completed by Mr. Bates. We may have it next cold weather. Mr. Bates is now engaged in designing the statue of Lord Lansdowne.

MR. Shyamji Krishnavarma, M. A., Oxon., barrister-at-law, has been appointed, in succession to Mr. Haridas Viharidas Desai, Dewan of Junagad. At a durbar held on the evening of the 6th February, the *hazur firman* of appointment was read and the new Dewan, who has seen service in Rutlam and Udeypore, was decorated with the robes of office and a valuable pearl necklace. He expressed his thankfulness in a rather long speech in Urdu, in the course of which he said that

"it was difficult for a man of his humble qualifications to carry on the work of administration as satisfactorily as his great and glorious predecessors, Dewan Amarji, Dewan Gokulji Zala, and Dewan Haridas He said that the name of the well-known Dewan Amarji meant in Sanskrit immortal, and that the name of Gokalji Zala was immortalized by the biography of that distinguished statesman, written by his learned and respected friend, Mr. Manasukhram. He hoped, however, that with the valuable assistance of the able and experienced Vazier, Bahaddinbhai, the state affairs would be carried on to the satisfaction of his Highness and the people of Junagad."

Continuing, he said :—

"It was his ambition to be useful to Sorath, particularly as the caste to which he belongs is called Sorathi, having been named after Sorath, where his forefathers originally lived. He was, therefore, the more happy for the opportunity thus afforded him for serving his old native land He dwelt on the respective duties of rulers and the ruled, quoting several authorities in Persian, Sanskrit and English, to the effect that a ruler collects taxes from his subjects solely for the purpose of conferring on them the benefits of peace, prosperity, and happiness, just as the sun draws water only to return it in abundance to the earth."

He concluded by saying that

"virtue was its own reward, and by expressing a hope that Almighty Providence would enable him to serve the State to the satisfaction of all concerned."

The first act of the new Dewan was a graceful one and gracefully performed At the same Durbar, immediately after his own installation, Mr. Shyamji again rose and, after recounting the distinguished and faithful services done to the State by Mr. Haridas, read a firman

"in which after concurring with the views expressed in the various *firmans* issued by his Highness's late lamented brother, Nawab Saheb Bahadhurkhanji, G.C I.E, regarding the valuable services of Mr. Haridas, his Highness stated that he himself had every reason to be satisfied of the way Mr. Haridas had discharged his duties, and expressed his regret at parting with him. The *firman* concluded by stating that as a mark of appreciation of the unswerving loyalty and integrity with which he had served the State for nearly ten years, his Highness was pleased to bestow on Mr. Haridas a monthly pension of Rs. 500 for life, besides a *khilat* worth Rs. 25,000"

The retiring Dewan, who is all modesty,

"expressed in fitting terms the deep debt of gratitude he owed to his Highness for the very liberal provision made for him, which, he said was assuredly more than he ever deserved. He attributed what little he was able to do to the hearty co-operation of the Vazir Saheb, Bahaddinbhai, and other officers of the State."

The Vizier Saheb then thanked the retiring Dewan for the compliment paid him After presentation of valuable robes to Mr. Haridas and his brother, Sirdar Rao Bahadur Behechardas, the ceremonies of the evening ended with the distribution of *attar* and *pan supari*.

Dewan Saheb Haridas is an inhabitant of Charutur in Gugerat His home is at Nadiad in Zilla Kaira He is 55 years of age and will be best remembered by our readers as a member of the Opium Commission of 1893 Coming of a family above want, he was in no hurry to take to service. At the age of 32, he was Nawadish and afterwards auditor at Bhownugger where he remained for 5 years and four months. Next he was State Kurbari at Waddan for about the same period. Wakanit then wanted his services. The Raja was then just dead leaving a minor 3 or 4 years old. He stayed there as Manager for a year, when the Maharaja of Idar—a branch of the House of Jodhpur, otherwise known as Nani Marwar—attaining majority, appointed Mr. Haridas his Dewan. After a stay there of 14 months, he transferred his services to the Mahomedan principality of Junagad, where he did excellent service for ten long years. A man of no ambition, strictly conscientious, and wishing to pass his latter years in the comforts of home, he took one year's leave preparatory to retirement. When that leave expired he tendered his resignation. It was not, however, accepted, and he was allowed another year's leave. It was during this period that he joined the Royal Commission. While he was still enjoying his second leave, after the close of the work on the Commission, he was recalled to his duties in the Junagad Durbar, as the acting Dewan whose services were lent by the British Government, too was recalled to join his permanent post in the British service. The Nawab pressed his Dewan to remain with him till such time as he could find a competent man. The Dewan Saheb, grateful for the consideration shewn him and full of sense of responsibility, had his leave cancelled and rejoined

the post from which he has just retired with such honour and dignity The provision made in his retirement is highly honourable to his master the Nawab.

Mr. Haridas Viharidas Desai is a jewel of a man—simple and unassuming, with the instincts of patriarchal days, gentlemanly feelings, without the vices of Western education, pleasant and agreeable, and with a fund of information to instruct and amuse. He may well be proud of having served his country well.

LORD Harris left Bombay on the evening of Saturday the 16th February. His successor Lord Sandhurst arrived on the morning of Monday the 18th February. In the interim, the Hon'ble H. M. Birdwood acted as Governor of Bombay. On his landing at the Appollo Bunder, the new Governor was presented with an address of welcome by the Bombay Corporation. In his reply, Lord Sandhurst took in good part the allusions in the address to his father and uncle, and said that it was his resolve to do his utmost for the happiness of the people of all classes and all creeds. He had said more in reply to the toast of his health proposed by the Secretary of State for India at the dinner of the Northbrook Society at the Imperial Institute, when he took as his model Mount Stuart Elphinstone. "To live up," said Lord Sandhurst, "to such a high ideal as that would be too high an ambition, but still it is a bright and noble example." If he is enabled to accomplish half of what he expects or wishes to do, Lord Sandhurst will be a model ruler himself.

It is an onerous and many-sided trust that Mr. Fowler charged Lord Sandhurst with. No Governor, not to say Viceroy, came out to India with so much preliminary flourish as the present Governor of Bombay. In concluding his address, Mr. Fowler said :—

"I believe, Lord Northbrook, that at no preceding period of our history did the English people take such an interest in the affairs of India as they do to-day, and I will couple with that observation that I think at no period of our history have the English people as a whole been so determined to rule, and to rule righteously, firmly, and unflinchingly, the greatest possession of the English Crown. There is no talk to-day (and if there were it would be speedily drowned in a universal cry of indignation) of abandoning India, of surrendering India. The English people will hold India with all the tenacity and grip of the race, and with the determination to fulfil the great trust which Providence had imposed upon them. I think the people of England have good reason to be proud of their Administration. True enough, the Indian Government, we are told, at the present moment is very much abused. Part of that abuse falls upon my head; but those expressions are passing ebullitions which do not break many bones. So far as the real story of India is concerned, I think that one of the reasons of this interest is that the English people are proud of their rule of India as being an illustrious achievement. Towards the close of the last century one of the greatest statesmen of that century in one of his most tremendous philippics against the Administration of India, told the House of Commons that, 'England in India has erected no hospitals, no schools, England has built no bridges, made no high roads, cut no navigation, dug out no reservoirs. Every other conqueror has left some monument of state or beneficence behind him. Were we to be driven out of India nothing would remain to tell that it had been possessed during the inglorious period of our dominion by anything better than the orang outang or the tiger.'

Now, when we recall the gigantic works, unparalleled in the history of the world, the expenditure of hundreds of millions upon a gigantic system of roads, railways, canals, reservoirs, irrigation works, hospitals, and all other departments of public and beneficent enterprise, we not only smile at the prophecy of Burke, but we are proud of our dominion in India. The policy which has been a success, a magnificent success in the past, is our policy to-day—is the policy which we are going to entrust to Lord Sandhurst in that great dependency over which he is to rule That policy is, in one word, to develop the resources, agricultural, mineral, manufacturing, and commercial resources of that vast empire; to preserve to the Indian people the priceless privilege of the nation's guarantee of the individual freedom, the individual liberty, the individual rights of every subject of the Queen; to uphold that rigid, stern, unbending impartiality in the administration of the law, which knows no distinction of race or class or creed, and to defend the people of India from the calamity of foreign aggression, and from the still greater curse of intestine civil war.

We believe Lord Sandhurst will inflexibly uphold that policy, and to-night I venture to express the assured hope that he will justify the confidence of his sovereign and the approval of his fellow-countrymen; and in your name, in the name of a representative body like this, including as it does those who have ruled, fought for, and defended India with brain and with hand, I wish Lord Sandhurst God-speed, and I ask you to drink to the health, to the happiness, and to the success of the Governor of Bombay. (Applause.)"

Lord Sandhurst was equal to the occasion. In reply, he said :—

"Now I wish to impress upon this audience that I go to Bombay with the intention of using, and shall make every endeavour to use, the strictest impartiality, to which Mr. Fowler has alluded, to look at every question from every side, to judge every case upon its merits before I come to my conclusions. Now I know very well that opinions will differ as to where impartiality may cease and prejudice commence; I equally know that it is impossible to please everybody by a decision, but that fear or that knowledge will not deter me, my lords and gentlemen, from making every endeavour to reach that impartiality to which I have just alluded. I shall endeavour to cultivate as far as I can, and to obtain the goodwill of, the Indian princes and chiefs with whom I shall have to do There are matters that have to do with health and learning—hygiene and education—to which a Governor can well interest himself with some good to the community. Now I have had some little experience of matters in London, and I have found that the more healthy and happier you can make the lives of people, the less crime and the less misery there is. That will guide me to a certain extent in dealing with those complex questions of sanitation and matters of that description when I arrive at my Presidency. I understand that in Bombay there are many hospitals which are maintained by the charity of private individuals. Well, when I come to see these hospitals I shall be upon familiar ground, because in this town I have for many years managed one of the largest of our hospitals, and anything I can do to promote the prosperity of such institutions and all good institutions indeed in Bombay will have my very best endeavours. The medical schools in connection with the hospitals shall have my earnest support; and in regard to the hospitals and nursing sisters, &c., I shall have an invaluable co-operator in Lady Sandhurst. I do not wish to be ambitious in making my first speech as Governor of Bombay, but with the best advice that I have at my hand, it will be my greatest wish to do the very best I can for all classes and every community that I have to deal with in the Presidency."

Bombay was not unanimous in her farewell to Lord Harris. The measures taken for suppression of the riots had divided enlightened opinion in that Presidency. Still there were memorial meetings and farewell entertainments in his honour, and Lord Harris left not unregretted and unsung. The opposition, however, made itself felt. There was no public meeting but a meeting of friends and admirers for a memorial to Lord Harris.

RAJA Jogender Nath Roy of Nator has been acquitted. The High Court finds that the story of the prosecution is substantially true and there is no moral doubt that the Raja was privy to the transaction, but there no legal evidence to connect him with the extortion or to convict him of abetment of the offence. It was the opinion in legal circles that there was absolutely no evidence against the Raja and the reservation of order on the Raja's appeal gave rise to many conjectures. They were all set at rest on Tuesday, when the Judges, Messrs. Norris and Beverley, reversed the Raja's conviction and discharged his bail bond. As we reported last week, the Raja's employé, Mathura Nath Pal, must expiate in jail for six months, the crime committed on the Assistant Surgeon Gunga Gobind Sircar. The Raja narrowly escapes the punishment ordered by the Sessions Judge, of six months" imprisonment and fine of Rs. 25,000, but is poorer by several thousands of rupees as costs of the defence. The Raja's release has given general satisfaction. Many of those who have carefully gone through the evidence are of the same mind with the Assessors. It is probable that we have not heard the last of the case.

IT is not "Viscount" Wolseley, but his brother Major-General Sir George Wolseley, that is coming out to India. The Major-General takes up the command of the Lahore district.

THE Commissioner of Police prepares us for the return of the dog days The *Englishman* of Wednesday writes :—"From to-day until the 19th of March all dogs found straying in the streets of the city and suburbs will be destroyed under the orders of the Commissioner of Police, and arrangements have been made to ensure their destruction in a manner which shall not shock the susceptibilities of the most fervid of the members of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals" We are glad to find that the Police Commissioner has taken it into his head not to inflict cruel deaths on the stray animals. But what is to be the method of painless destruction? We also hope better arrangements will be made for removing the dead bodies, which are often allowed to be exposed on the public thoroughfares.

IN a paper, read on January 30, at a meeting of the Society of Arts, Mr. Thomas Child described the city of Pekin thus :—

"The capital of China differs from any other city in the world in appearance, having no towering spires, lofty chimneys, or many-storeyed buildings, almost all the houses being of one storey only. The most lofty buildings are the towers over the city gates, which look very warlike and imposing, but the rows of guns peeping out of portholes are so many painted dummies. In the outside walls enclosing the Tartar city, four miles square, are nine gates. About a mile inwards is another walled city called the Imperial City, and again within this is the Forbidden City, enclosing the Royal Palaces, and within which no foreigner is allowed. The Chinese City is tacked on,

as it were, to the south of the Tartar City, and is also enclosed by a wall about nine miles in circumference pierced with seven gates. It is smaller and inferior, with narrow, dirty streets, and only one respectable building—the Temple of Heaven—but most of the business is transacted here. Each city is surrounded by a broad and deep moat. The wall of the Tartar City is fifty feet thick at the base, forty feet at the top, and fifty feet in height."

In the present war, the Chinese guns have proved painted dummies all round.

MONDAY next is the last day for applying for tickets to the Chapters at Government House.

THE sensational prosecution of Rai Ishwari Prasad of Patna, who assisted the magistracy in suppressing the budmashes of the city and is being pursued as a budmash himself, has entered its second phase. After examining the appalling number of 74 witnesses, the prosecution closed its case on the 4th February. The defence was allowed time till the 18th to decide whether it would go into evidence. The names of 37 witnesses, or exactly half the number on the other side, have been submitted. A day will be fixed by the District Magistrate, Saran, Mr. Slack, to whom the case has been transferred by order of the High Court. There is no knowing how long one enjoys the favour of the gods that be.

REIS & RAYYET.

Saturday, February 23, 1895.

THE AMENDMENT OF THE POLICE ACT.

THE official view of the amendment of section 15 of the Bengal Police Act (V of 1861) is that the powers vested by the existing law on the Executive Government do not go far enough. The sense of justice which every executive officer has, is frequently offended by the law as he finds it and as he is, therefore, bound to administer. In apportioning the costs of the additional constabulary, the innocent cannot be discriminated from the guilty, and those that do not actually reside within the disturbed area, however active in provoking breaches of the peace through their agents, are incapable of being touched. The criminal jurisprudence of England has always been distinguished by its humanity. The escape of even ten guilty men is regarded less injurious to society than the conviction of one innocent man. A sweeping condemnation all round of the residents of a particular area for the acts of, perhaps, only a few, is something at which the gorge of every district administrator rises. The escape also of men who lay the mine that explodes and engulphs a wide area in the common ruin, can hardly be contemplated with equanimity. The scandal to the reputation of British administration for thorough justice is very great. Accordingly, the section needs amending. District Magistrates should be empowered to distinguish the guilty from the innocent in apportioning the additional costs for preservation of the peace, and to touch those who live elsewhere though equally responsible with the residents for the disturbances brought about. The usual safeguards of judicial determinations will have no place in the procedure for discriminating the guilty from the innocent. The Magistrate will proceed to acquit or condemn with the assistance of only his subordinates, and even punish people, with the sanction of the Local Government, but without any reference, at any stage of the proceedings, to the persons themselves that are to be punished. Sir James Westland fired at the thought of anybody being so bold as to question the propriety of vesting such arbitrary power on the members of a service whose character and competence are evidenced by the very acquisition of India as a province of the British Empire and its retention as such amid the inherent difficulties and dangers of the situation. Safe as the exercise must always be of arbitrary power by every member of the "glorious service," falsified as history is bound to be in respect of the consequences of such exercise, the zeal seems to be certainly commendable that seeks to free the innocent population of a disturbed area from the obligation of paying for a constabulary quartered for the sake only of the guilty. Sir A. P. MacDonnell's connection with India is not coming to an abrupt close. He may faisly hope to succeed in the Governorship of a province and continue as a member of the Supreme Council for some years to come. Hence, India may expect to see a bill, ushered amid every solemnity, that will have for its object the exemption of all innocent men in the country from the general Police rate, for it is the guilty only for whom that rate is levied and spent. But whatever the character of the amendment, and whatever the force of the opposition it has evoked throughout the country, the serried rank of official members already convinced of its utility, is enough to pass it by a solid vote.

Meanwhile, it may not be uninteresting to have a glimpse into district administration respecting the manner in which the law, as it stands at present, is applied. It will not be difficult to show what a dreadful engine it is in the hands of the district executive for quelling the slightest assertion of self-respect by the people. The very High Court is powerless to protect people whom the executive may wish to punish. We need not go far. The metropolitan district of Nuddea, under the Presidency Commissioner, and containing a population that is certainly as advanced as that of any portion of British India, may be selected for our present purpose The district head-quarters are at Gowari. In its immediate vicinity are two *churs* thrown up sometime back by the Khariya river. One of these is known by the name of chur Chupri and the other as chur Paninala or Harnagore. A family of Kyput Vaiçyas, known by the name of Chetlangi, residing in Gowari, are owners of the full 16 annas of Chupri as mourasidars. They are also owners, as mourasidars, of chur Paninala, to the extent of two-thirds, the remaining third being owned as mourasidar by Babu Naffer Chandra Pal Chowdhury of Latudaha Having made some money as shawl merchants and money-lenders for at least two generations in Gowari, the Chetlangis have only recently invested their surplus in land. The Pal Chowdhuries of Latudaha, as Zemindars, are not of a much older date. They have for some generations been men of wealth and influence. The history of the family is not known beyond their district. One of the ancestors of the family is said to have acted as a purveyor to Dewan Ganga Govind Sing at the celebrated *sraddha* for which Warren Hastings had

The Indian Association for the Cultivation of Science.

210, Bow-Bazar Street, Calcutta

(Session 1894-95.)

Lecture by Babu Syamadas Mukherjee, M. A., on Thursday, the 28th Inst, at 4 P. M. *Subject*. Theory of Projection.

Admission Fee, Rs. 4 for Physics, and Rs. 4 for Chemistry; Rs. 6 for both Physics and Chemistry; Rs. 4 for Physiology; Rs. 4 for General Biology; Rs. 6 for complete course of Physiology and Biology. The charge for a single lecture is 2 Annas.

MAHENDRA LAL SIRCAR, M.D.,
February 23, 1895. *Honorary Secretary.*

made a grant from the public treasury. Some years back, Babu Naffer Chandra startled all India by offering the magnificent sum of Rs. 3,00,000 in aid of some scheme of public utility for his district. It is said that when this offer was announced, the rayyets of the Latuda house feared that every pice of the contribution would have to be met by themselves in the end. If such a fear was really entertained, it must have been unreasonable. No Zemindar, whatever his influence, can in our times succeed in raising such a large sum from his rayyets without raising at the same time a storm of opposition and obloquy before which the most dauntless will have to yield. As such, by his splendid offer, Babu Naffer Chandra at once established his character for both liberality and sense. We do not know the history of the rejection of the offer. Bubu NafferChandra was then in bad odour with the district authorities. He had deposited about a third of the sum with the Collector. but it was returned. We think it was the Divisional Commissioner, Mr. Monro, who strongly advised the non-acceptance of the benefaction. Nuddea is one of those districts which has, since the beginning of British rule, been famous for the cultivation of Indigo. When the Indigo crisis happened in Bengal, Nuddea was not backward in throwing off the yoke of its Indigo-masters. Between the resolute opposition of the rayyets, the Indigo Commission, and the increased vigilance of the local Magistracy, the Indigo industry received a shock from which it has not been able to recover. A few concerns outlived the crisis. In Nuddea, among those that survived the agitation, the Mahesgunge factory has been one. It was owned till recently by the Savis. The last owner. Mr. Henry Savi, having found himself in difficulties, the concern passed away from him. It was purchased by Babu Naffer Chandra Pal Chowdhury in 1884, who had to undergo a world of trouble in obtaining possession. The district authorities sympathised with Mr. Savi and prevented Babu Naffer Chandra from asserting his rights as he understood them. Criminal prosecutions were instituted against many of his men. Some of his superior servants were made Special Constables. The Civil Court had to be appealed to. He obtained a decree, but even then he had to pay a large sum of money before all could be right. Since then he has been working the factory.

Mr. Henry Savi's last Izara lease of the two churs was in force when the Pal Chowdhuries purchased the Maheshgunge concern. That lease expired in March 1893. There was a clause in it binding the lessee to give up the lands, on expiry of the lease, without waiting for a notice from the lessor and without setting up any claim to continuance of possession. The Chetlangis, as successors in interest to the lessor, though not bound to do it, still served on the Pal Chowdhuries a formal notice calling upon them not to cultivate the lands with any such crops as could not be removed by March 1893, as that was the time by which the absolute surrender of the property was to be made. The Pal Chowdhuries, disregarding the notice, sowed Indigo as usual in October 1892 and, accordingly, when their lease expired in March 1893, they showed no signs of giving up the land. They could not cut their Indigo till June or July following. As Izardars, however, all the lands were not under their direct possession, for a good portion thereof was in the occupation of rayyets who cultivated for their own benefit, paying rent to the Izardar. Some of these, immediately after the expiry of the Izara, fearing that the Chetlangis, who had taken symbolical possession, might oust them outright, executed kabuliyats in favour of the in-coming proprietors. The latter succeeded in cultivating a few biggahs of land themselves. The rayyets also succeeded in tilling and sowing their lands. The crops that were cultivated by both the rayyets and the Chetlangis, after the Izara had expired, were *kalai*, wheat, linseed, barley, rye, &c. The Pal Chowdhuries, having reaped the Indigo in June and July, again sowed some of the lands with Indigo seeds and, as they afterwards alleged, with *kalai* also. Disputes in Bengal, at even their hottest, have two principal features, viz., a vigorous play of lungs and charges and counter-charges in the Criminal Courts by men who, if their own allegations are to be believed, ought to be lying in hospitals when they are seen in the witness-box or the dock. Actual encounters, with even fists and sticks, are of rare occurrence. A breach of the peace in Bengal means more often a constructive battery than broken heads or bruised limbs. Accordingly, after the expiry of the Izara in March 1893, when the Chetlangis sought to oust the Pal Chowdhuries, the rayyets to cultivate on their own account, and the Pal Chowdhuries to go on cultivating Indigo as before, criminal accusations and counter-accusations were filed. The Pal Chowdhury party brought more suits than the Chetlangis and the rayyets. Many of these were dismissed. Among those that were brought by the Chetlangis and the rayyets, some were dismissed and some terminated otherwise. Only one case of actual battery had occurred. There can be no doubt that both parties exaggerated the occurrence Both sides were punished. The drama of criminal accusations and counter-accusations was played out. Full six months had expired without the conservators of the public peace doing anything. The method of preventing disputes by appointing Special Constables had been tried, but the effect was not satisfactory. At last, the local authorities were roused. The lion had been asleep too long. He shook his manes and gave a roar that was by no means as gentle as that of a sucking dove. In October 1893, a proceeding was instituted, upon a Police report, under section 145, C. P. C., for prevention of further disputes. All the parties were called upon to file statements of their claims. The cause of the Chetlangis was certainly weak. Whatever their rights, their possession was recent. The Pal Chowdhuries were admittedly in possession. Both the proprietors, however, admitted the possession of the rayyets, the Chetlangis affirming that the rayyets were holding under them, the Pal Chowdhuries traversing it and alleging the contrary. The result was that the Deputy Magistrate, in a judgment propounding a novel idea of the possession contemplated by section 145, confirmed the possession of the Pal Chowdhuries, ousting both the Chetlangis and the rayyets. On motion, the High Court set aside the order so far as the eviction of the rayyets was concerned. Both the Pal Chowdhuries and the Chetlangis had admitted the possession of the rayyets with respect to certain land The order of the Deputy Magistrate, therefore, ir as the Chetlangis were concerned, was uphe s regards the Pal Chowdhuries, although th rma- tion of their possession was upheld, it w nted out that their possession could not be i stent

with that of the rayyets, in respect, at least, of such lands as were directly cultivated by the latter. The seventy rayyets, therefore, that had been ousted, were ordered by the High Court to be maintained in possession "until evicted by due course of law." The order of the High Court was dated the 12th of May, 1894. To this day, however, the tenants evicted in consequence of the Deputy Magistrate's order of the 30th of January 1894, have not been able to approach their fields. From the commencement of the proceedings in the Deputy Magistrate's Court, they have lost season after season without being able to cultivate any crop. It is not a case of the glorious law's delay. The details are painful to contemplate. How to nullify the adjudication of the highest court of law in the land has been the game played at Nuddea. How also the law is utterly unable to afford protection to the poor when the executive authorities suffer the procedure to be abused, will abundantly appear from the sequel. We reserve that narrative for the iture. It will, we think, be the best commentary i the sense of justice which is claimed on behalf the executive and which is one of the principal ounds upon which the proposed amendment of e Police Act rests.

THE INDIGENOUS DRUGS OF INDIA.*

This is the text of the Address delivered by Rai Kanny Lall Dey Bahadur, on the 27th of December last, as one of the Presidents of the Section of Pharmacology of the Indian Medical Congress. Babu Kanny Lall has studied the indigenous drugs of India for a period, as he says, of more than forty years, and yet he laments the comparatively poor results he has achieved by that study. He happily quotes the well-known saying of Darwin, viz., "We only see how little has been made out in comparison with what remains unexplained and unknown." Newton also had, for expressing the same idea, likened himself to a child gathering pebbles on the sea shore. The fact is, the medicinal wealth of India, as represented by her vegetables, is almost inexhaustible. The literature of ancient India on the subject is voluminous. Unfortunately, Botany was never cultivated by the Rishis as a science. Hence no classification occurs, in any Sanskrit treatise, of the herbs and plants that were used for medicinal purposes. Names occur of all the vegetables whose medicinal properties were known, but, with the lapse of time, many of those names have become obsolete, so that the task of identifying a plant mentioned in Charaka or Susruta is often attended with great difficulty. Sometimes, with a wantonness that provokes anger, the same name is applied to more than one plant. The Hindu physicians were *Kaviraj*es or princes of poets. They preferred to write their treatises in verse. No wonder that in many instances the same plant came to be called by diverse names, even as the same name was sometimes applied to diverse plants. Take the case of the *Chebulic myrobalan* or *Haritaki* as it is generally called by the people. There are dozens of names implying this plant. Amongst those occur the poetic one of *Pathyasundara*, meaning the foremost or finest of all articles used as regimen. However well-known the word to physicians of culture, we were not surprised to see Babu Yasodanandan Sircar repeating it, without understanding it, in his Bengali translation of Charaka for the *Bangabasi* Press. Among the commentators of Charaka, Chakrapanidatta is certainly the foremost. There is internal evidence to show that he was a Bengali of Bengal. His precise age cannot be determined, but there can be no doubt that he is removed from us by several centuries. Even in his time the names of many plants had become obsolete as stated by him in his commentary.

There are some excellent observations of Sir William Jones regarding the method of scientific nomenclature for Indian vegetables. Babu Kanny Lall quotes them in his address. The drift of those observations is that Indian plants should have their Indian names bestowed on them. Sir William Jones was fully persuaded that Linnæus himself would have adopted them if he had known the learned language of India. The principle for which Sir William Jones contended has been adopted in a few cases with success. Thus the "Kadamva" was named *Nauclea Cadamba* by Roxburgh, and *Anthocephalus Cadamba* by Bentham and Hook. So the "Devadaru" was named *Pinus deodara* by Roxburgh, and *Cedrus deodara* by Loudon. So also "Vasaka" was called *Adhatoda Vacica* by Nees. Linnæus himself called the "Champaka" *Michelia Champaka.*

Dependant as the Hindu physicians have always been on herbs and plants for the cure of disease, the fact has created some surprise that regular farms never existed in this country for the rearing of medicinal vegetables. The fact is, vegetable gallenicals have always grown spontaneously in India in very abundant quantities. The mountains and forests and woods and riverbeds and plains of India are full of medicinal plants. The necessity has never been felt of cultivating them artificially. Every physician could obtain whatever plant he wanted and in whatever measure he stood in need of it. Considering the places where these plants generally grow, sturdy individuals of inferior castes have always acted as purveyors of the physicians in this important department. The *Musheras* of Central and Upper India, the *Mals*, *Vediyas*, *Bagdis*, *Pods*, *Chandalas*, and *Kaoras* of Bengal, and similar castes of other provinces have always been familiar with our medicinal plants. To these must be added the *Gandha-Vaniks* or the spice-sellers by profession. As regards those plants or vegetable products which are used in a dried state Hindu physicians have always purchased them from the Gandha-Vaniks who, in their turn, have to purchase them, while green or fresh, from the low castes already mentioned. The Gandha-Vanik have, like others, vastly improved under British Rule by availing themselves of English education. Many of them have entered the public service. The present writer, however, remembers the time when, in villages at least, on occasions of selecting bridegrooms, the youth of this caste were questioned about their knowledge of vegetable drugs. Those who showed proficiency in naming and describing medicinal plants were regarded as eligible for marriage. To return to the subject of farms for the cultivation of medicinal plants. However much such farms may be needed in our time for purely educational purposes, the supply is still so abundant that it would be a waste of money to establish them anywhere for commercial purposes. Some years back, in a letter addressed to the *Calcutta Journal of Medicine*, Babu Joy Kissen Mookerjee of Uttarparah advocated the establishment of such forms for their educational value, himself offering to bear a portion of the outlay needed. It is a pity that his project was not taken up by either Government or the public. But the Babu himself, if we remember rightly, deprecated the establishment of such farms for commercial ends. It is true that experimental farms may be usefully established for naturalising in one part of the country such plants as grow in another and are in constant requisition all over the world. But then with regard to plants that are indigenous to India, expensive artificial cultivation, from an economic point of view, is not at all necessary. Babu Kanny Lall Dey truly observes that there is enough belladonna on the Himlayan range which is sufficient to satisfy the needs of the whole world. He advises transplantation into districts where it does not grow at present spontaneously, but we think if the soil and climate be suitable, once transplanted, it will become indigenous. Vast sums have been spent by Government in the unsuccessfu

**Indian Pharmacology—A Review.* An Address. By Rai Bahadur Kanny Lall Dey, C.I.E., F.C.S., Graduate of the Medical College of Bengal, &c. Indian Medical Congress, Calcutta.

cultivation of ipecacuanha, but the money spent on cinchona has not been a waste. In an address, however, whose express topic is the indigenous drugs of India, observations on the desirability or otherwise of the naturalisation of foreign medicinal plants are, we think, somewhat out of place.

We will close our notice of Babu Kanny Lall Dey's able address by a reference to the contributions of those scientific men of the West who have laboured in the cause of Indian botany or Indian medicinal botany. One of the earliest works on the subject was from the pen of Sir William Jones, entitled "Botanical Observations on Select Indian Plants." John Fleming's "Catalogue of Medicinal Plants" which appeared in 1810, Ainslie's "Materia Medica of Hindustan," which took some years to publish, are other works in the same direction. Then came Roxburgh's "Flora Indica." The author had left the work in manuscript. We think the Serampore Missionaries superintended its printing and publication. It is a grand treatise. For the first time the Sanskrit medical books and dictionaries were searched for all the synonymes of almost every plant. The descriptions are full and accurate. The labours of Wallich and Royle, and later of Dr. F. J. Mout, can hardly be ignored. Sir William O'Shaugnessy's *Bengal Pharmacopœia*, which appeared in 1844, is a remarkable work. The edition has long been exhausted, and the book has not been since reprinted. We think the copyright is in the Government of India. It was Sir William, we think, who first pointed out to the Government what a source of wealth India had in her indigenous drugs. The *Pharmacopœia of India* also, of Dr. Waring, which appeared in 1868 is another work of signal value to the cause of science. Our own U. C. Dutt's *Materia Medica of the Hindus* is an excellent work, more systematical than Dr. Wise's brief work on Hindu Medicine. The valuable list of plants occurring at the end of Mr. Dutt's useful publication was prepared with the assistance of Dr. King, the Superintendent of the Royal Botanic Gardens of Shibpore. Among the later writers on the subject, the names of Fluckiger and Hanbury and Dymock and Hooper and Dr. George Watt deserve mention.

We cannot take leave of this Address without praising its writer. Within a brief compass he has succeeded in condensing observations that are extremely suggestive. Among the graduates of the Calcutta Medical Congress few names can be mentioned in the same breath with that of Babu Kanny Lall for the spirit of investigation and study shown in the department of Chemistry as connected with Indian medicinal Botany. The language of the address has been such that it is capable of being owned by the best of stylists among English physicians in India.

THE RECENT DISTURBANCES IN THE DECCAN.

The following Resolution of the Bombay Government has been published with reference to the Memorial from the Poona Sarvajanik Sabha on the subject of the state of feeling between Hindoos and Mahomedans in certain places in the Deccan.

The following letter should be addressed to the Secretary of the Poona Sarvajanik Sabha in reply to his letters dated, respectively, the 29th November and 23rd December, 1894, and the 8th and 21st January, 1895:—

In acknowledging the receipt of your letters (No. 975, dated the 29th November, 1894; No. 978, dated the 23rd December, 1894; No. 1, dated the 8th January, 1895; and No. 12, dated the 21st January, 1895), I am directed, in reply, to explain that, while the Governor in Council readily recognises the Sabha's perfect right to withhold the information asked for by Government in letters Nos. 8467 and 8693, dated respectively the 19th and 29th December, the unusual course of asking for it was taken only because the Sabha's letter seemed to imply a claim, not merely to that consideration on its own merits which the Governor in Council is as ready now as ever to accord to any communication received from the Sabha, but also to the weight due to an expression of the views of a body representing the Mahomedan and Parsee as well as the Hindoo community. Government are of course aware that one section of the latter community which is most active, and which there is unfortunately least reason to credit with any genuine and disinterested desire to allay animosities and minimise the difficulty of dealing with them, is represented in the counsels of the Sabha, and having regard to the obvious necessity for caution in examining any proposals really emanating from that source on the one hand, and on the other to the value to be attached to any genuine and adequate consensus of enlightened and well disposed native opinion in regard to such subjects as those under discussion, it would have been hardly fair to dispose of their representation without at least giving them an opportunity of removing any possible doubts as to the point of view from which it should be regarded.

Such information as the Sabha have thought it permissible to give goes only to show that they approach the subject from what is, for practical purposes, a purely Hindoo standpoint and leaves unanswered the further question whether the views and line of action they advocate command the intelligent adherence of any large body even of Hindoo opinion, so unconnected with, and unaffected by, the recent course of events as to be entitled to much confidence. The Sabha will not perhaps, under these circumstances, look for more than an assurance that their representations have been carefully considered. There are, however, one or two points in regard to which a more specific expression of the views of Government may be useful.

Without following the Sabha into their review of the causes which have led up to the existing tension, Government, I am to state, are willing to note the assurance of the Sabha's belief that the actual disturbances which have taken place have originated in religious prejudices rousing one class agninst another, and that they have for the most part been confined to the lower and ignorant classes of the two communities. At the same time the Sabha should understand that Government have been informed, not by "low-paid and not over-scrupulous officers," but by Hindoo gentlemen of high position, and not less capable of forming a fair judgment of the causes that have led to the disturbances than are the members of the Sabha, that there is no religious antipathy amongst the lower classes such as would of itself incite to outbreaks; and that the normal but quiescent difference of opinion as to the merits of the respective religions has been fanned into flames here and there by the incitement of better educated, better born, and better situated but worse disposed persons. His Excellency in Council does not, with these conflicting views before him, hazard an opinion as to the class within which the originators of these disturbances are to be found; but assuming for the moment that the view of the Sabha is the more worthy of credence, I am to observe that the Sabha, in repudiating the responsibility of the educated classes has made no attempt to show that, the breach once formed, the sort of writing with which a certain section of the Native press has teemed could have had, or have been intended to have, any other effect than to widen the breach, or that the gentlemen who have been so busy in various places, preaching resistance and retribution and coercion by boycotting and otherwise; publishing religious pamphlets and songs; using organized pressure to prevent Hindoos, especially of the lower classes, from taking their customary or professional part in Mahomedan celebrations, getting up, at a time of much religious excitement, ostentatious Hindoo processions, accompanied by every demonstration likely to irritate the rival community, which they could induce the district authorities to permit; calling meetings and counter meetings; taking part in rejoicings over the results of trials supposed to be favourable to their own community and expressing public condemnation of proceedings having a contrary issue; promoting addresses to gentlemen convicted of disobedience to lawful authority as being martyrs in the cause of religion, and so on, could have been ignorant of the necessary effect of such proceedings in embittering the quarrel, provoking counter demonstrations, and encouraging and exasperating the bigotry and fanaticism which the Sabha so properly deprecate. I am to explain that these remarks are made in no spirit of recrimination or accusation. The gentlemen in question, to whichever side they may belong,—and if the Hindoo agitator has been more in evidence, it is not that the Mahomedan minority have been backward in carrying on the war in their own way,—are of course entitled to their own opinions and to act according to their own judgment and conscience, at their own risk. It is only because the facts noticed, which are notorious, suggest a possibility that the Sabha may have somewhat exaggerated not only the natural strength and death of the hatred which they would have Government to believe to exist between the lower classes of the two communities, but also the necessity for special measures, as distinguished from mere abstinence from needless provocation, to bring them together, that attention is drawn to them. They have also a practical bearing, which should not be ignored, on the attitude of the district officers which the Sabha have taken it upon themselves to condemn as one of "violent prejudice and mistrust," and on the feelings of sorrow and helplessness which they attribute, not, it is to be feared, without reason, to the more respected and respectable members of both communities. It appears to Govern-

ment that officers who are responsible for the peace of their districts are entitled to use their own judgment as to the value of the advice which may be tendered to them in times of threatened disturbance when, as the Sabha point out, the men who make themselves most prominent are not those most worthy of confidence; and that these officers are as little likely as the Sabha could desire to reject any help they can obtain from "Hindoos whom the Mahomedans respect and Mahomedans who enjoy the confidence of Hindoos." That there are in every district many such Hindoos and Mahomedans every district officer knows, and the Sabha will have deserved the gratitude of the community if the attention they have drawn to the subject should serve to encourage such gentlemen in particular, and the well disposed majority in general, to use the influence which belongs to them in support of law and order, instead of yielding to their not unnatural inclination to remain passive.

There is one other point to which, before leaving this subject, I am to invite the attention of the Sabha, and that is in connection with the treatment of the social malady which they prescribe in paragraph 4 (V) of their letter, so far as the responsibilities of the district authorities are concerned. As the Sabha are no doubt aware, disturbances arising from religious or other causes are no novelty in the annals of administration, whether in this Presidency or elsewhere, both in and out of India, and the local authorities everywhere understand with sufficient clearness that their character for efficiency depends on the foresight, judgment, and firmness with which they deal with such crises when they arise. But it is unfortunately not more difficult here than elsewhere for ill-disposed persons to make trouble, and the Sabha have apparently failed to realise that for Government to announce, as they suggest, an intention of "degrading or promoting its officers according as they fail or succeed in preserving peace" by way of inducement to them "to seek to enlist the active co-operation of the leaders of both sides" would be tantamount to handing over the control of the local administration to any irresponsible mischief-monger with influence enough to get up a disturbance and a motive for using that influence.

With regard to the distinction drawn by the Sabha between religious and secular music, I am to recommend to their consideration a letter signed "Hindoo" and published in the English papers of the 10th January, 1895, the author of which is not known to Government, but which appears to place in a very reasonable and practical light some of the objections to the view taken by the Sabha, and to their proposal to make that view the basis of a general line of action. The position of Government in the matter has already been stated in their Resolution No. 1917 of the 15th March, 1894 on the Yeola riots. I am to observe that the Sabha and the Hindoo community generally may rest assured that the importance attached by the Hindoos to the use of music in their processions and celebrations, whether religious or secular, (if it is possible to draw such a distinction), is fully realised, and that neither Government nor any of their officers have the least desire to interfere in the matter further than is necessary for the preservation of the public peace, the protection of other sections of the public against annoyance and damage, and the general maintenance of order. It is obviously impossible to accept any theory which would subordinate those considerations to the religious views of either party. Theory apart Government officers have repeatedly shown their willingness in practice to allow soft music to continue when the difficulty could be got over by stopping the noisy music only. Where music has been stopped altogether, it has only been because no warrant of custom has been made out for endangering the public peace by allowing it. The one exception, if it can be called an exception, to that rule, of which Government are aware, is the order recently issued at Poona for the licensing of music in the streets.

The necessity for an order calculated to prevent the recurrence of disputes was recognized and insisted upon on all sides. The form which it took, that of an adaptation of the order in force in Bombay, was, as Government understand, dictated partly by general considerations and partly by a desire to remove the question from the domain of excited religious feeling. Subject to such modifications, if any, as may appear to the local authorities to be called for in view of the practical inconveniences which that order is alleged by the Sabha to involve, it appears to Government to be one which as opening to both parties a door of retreat without surrender from a dispute which had become a menace to life and property, deserves the support rather than the condemnation of bodies which, like the Sabha, claim to speak in the interests of peace and good will.

Finally, I am to observe that, while Government are not disposed to abandon, and will certainly use, on occasion arising, any powers of repression that the law now provides, they entirely concur in the views of the Sabha as to the policy of "preventing outbreaks, rather than that it should be necessary to resort to stern repression to put them down after they have broken out." To that end official conciliation and adjudication of disputes are means which deserve consideration, can be resorted to where advisable, and might, under certain conditions, which have not, however, in the opinion of Government, as yet arisen in Bombay, become indispensable. But concessions made and bargains accepted as the result of such arrangements are at best little more acceptable or more likely to be observed without compulsion, or broken without offence, than such magisterial orders based on a rough appreciation of the merits of the dispute and the immediate necessities of the situation as are a matter of ordinary procedure. It is only in the restoration of those feelings of genuine amity and mutual respect, which can hardly even now be far below the surface, that any real and permanent security against the constant recurrence of the necessity for repressive measures and distasteful restrictions can be looked for. There is no Hindoo or Mussalman so humble as to be unable to render, if he so pleases, material aid in bringing about that restoration, by abstaining himself and persuading his fellows to abstain from all unnecessary causes of offence, doing what in him lies to make amends for any injury or annoyance that may have been caused to the other party, cultivating friendly relations in all matters outside the sphere of the dispute, and taking all possible means to show that, even in regard to matters in dispute, there is no desire to be aggressive, or to take offence where none is intended. The question may be asked, "Which side is to begin?" The answer is that, if one side rather than the other should set the example, it should be the side which is strongest and has suffered least. But there is little need to fear that either side which may give evidence, in the manner indicated, of a genuine desire for reconciliation will have to wait long for a response. Whilst cordially appreciating the private efforts of the Sabha in the interests of peace, forbearance, and good will, I am to commend to the earnest attention of its members the above suggestion as a practical remedy, and one that is most likely to induce that constitutional harmony which alone can give real confidence in each other's good intentions to the disputants.

G. W. VIDAL,
Acting Secretary to Government.

THE BIRDS WHISTLED "THE DEAD MARCH."

"*Even the birds on the trees learned to whistle the 'Dead March.'*"

It was an old soldier who was talking. "We were in camp," he said, "in a flat, malarious part of the country. Our Colonel was a splendid fighter, but didn't appear to have any idea of sanitary matters. Just then we were in more danger from disease than from the enemy. Presently fever broke out and the men died by the dozen. Hardly a day but we buried some of them in the swamp. In fact, we played the "Dead March" so often that I used to fancy the birds in the trees had learned to whistle it. "Awful sorry, you know, boys," said our Colonel "but so long as we have to stay here, we can't help having the fever." Yet the Colonel was wrong, as another regiment camped near us almost wholly escaped. But their commander fought the malaria with sanitation and preventive medicine. That made the difference."

In January, 1892, the influenza was epidemic at Stebbing, near Chelmsford. Among the persons attacked were Mrs. Abram Thorogood, of White House Farm, her daughter Annie, and her sons William and Earnest. They had terrible pains in the head, sore muscles and joints and were very feverish. The whole four—mother and three children—were confined to their beds.

In a letter on the subject Mr. Thorogood says: "my wife became quite delirious; she did not know where she was, and could neither get in nor out of bed. I gave Mother Seigel's Curative Syrup to all of them with excellent results, the fever soon left them, and shortly they were well and strong as ever, and have since remained so. I may mention that many neighbours and friends had the same complaint as my wife and family, but although the others had doctors and the best attention and advice, none recovered so rapidly as my people did. I thank God that I came to hear of Mother Seigel's Curative Syrup, for although we are a family of seven, living at home, during the eight years I have kept it in the house we have not needed a doctor, thus saving many pounds in doctors' bills and costly prescriptions.

"The way I first used Seigel's Syrup was this: In the spring of 1883 I began to feel ill and out of sorts. My tongue was dreadfully coated and a thick phlegm covered my gums and teeth. After eating I suffered from a pain at the chest and stomach. I had bad nights, and sweat so much that in the morning *my underclothing was soaked with moisture.* In the following August carbuncles came on the back of my neck, on my nose, and on my cheek bone. What I suffered I cannot describe. I got so low and weak that I could barely crawl about. The doctors did me no good. And as for their physic I might as well have taken tea or water. In pain and suffering I lingered on until I heard, through a neighbour, of Mother Seigel's Curative Syrup and got a bottle from Mr. W. Linsell, grocer, of Stebbing. A few doses relieved me, and soon the carbuncles disappeared, and I was well as ever. Yours truly, (Signed) ABRAM THOROGOOD, White House Farm, Stebbing, by Chelmsford, August 19th, 1892."

In Mr. Thorogood's own case the disease was indigestion and dyspepsia, which poisoned his blood and caused the carbuncles, which are growths on the underlying layers of the skin. After the Syrup had purified his blood they were absorbed and expelled from the system. The effect of the remedy in the cases of the other members of his family shows (what we have often stated), viz., that *influenza attacks those whose blood is filled with the poisonous acids thrown into the system by fermented food in the stomach.* Mr. Thorogood says his wife had been troubled with indigestion and dyspepsia, which was no doubt the case with the children also. Don't allow your blood to become a breeding-ground of disease. On the first signs of indigestion take Mother Seigel's Curative Syrup. You know the proverb about the ounce of prevention.

MILITARY SECRETARY'S OFFICE.

NOTIFICATION.

Calcutta, the 8th February, 1895

No. 3648-I.—His Excellency the Grand Master of the Most Exalted Order of the Star of India and the Most Eminent Order of the Indian Empire will hold an Investiture of both Orders in the Government House grounds on Thursday, the 7th March, 1895, at 9 30 P.M.

Admission to Government House on the occasion will be by tickets only.

All persons desirous of attending, except members of the above-mentioned Orders and members of the Consular body who will be invited by the Foreign Department, are requested to apply for tickets to the undersigned not later than the 25th February, 1895, *after which date no applications will be received.* Tickets will be issued on or after the 1st March, 1895.

By Command,
A. DURAND,
Lieutenant-Colonel,
Military Secretary to the Viceroy.

MILITARY SECRETARY'S OFFICE.

NOTIFICATION.

Calcutta, the 12th February, 1895.

No. 3674-I.—In continuation of this office Notification No. 3648-I., dated the 8th February, 1895, it is hereby notified that, on the occasion of the Investitures of the Most Exalted Order of the Star of India and of the Most Eminent Order of the Indian Empire, to be held in the Government House grounds on Thursday, the 7th March, 1895, at 9 30 P.M., those entitled to wear uniform will appear in *Full Dress*, and those not entitled to wear uniform will appear in *Evening Dress.*

Those having the private entrée are requested to enter the Government House grounds by the south-west gate, and alight opposite the private entrance in front of the gun. Their carriages will be passed out by the south gate.

Those not having the private entrée are requested to enter by the north-east gate, and set down before reaching the grand stairs.

The gates of Government House will be closed at 9-15 P.M., after which no carriages will be allowed into the Government House Compound till the ceremony is over.

By Command,
A DURAND,
Lieutenant-Colonel,
Military Secretary to the Viceroy.

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DROIT ET AVANT

Reis and Rayyet

(PRINCE & PEASANT)

WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

VOL. XIV. CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, MARCH 2, 1895. WHOLE NO. 664.

CONTEMPORARY POETRY.

THE MINER'S DREAM.

THE day was done—he swallowed a crust—
The last he had in his locker—
He placed his head on a bag of dust,
And his hands on the pick and rocker.

And there by the Yuba's lonely stream,
His tent the murky sky,
He dreamed the most auriferous dream;
Alas! that 't was all in his eye.

He saw the noble palace of gold
Which the ancient Spaniards sought—
The dome of gold was lofty and bold,
And the pillars with gold inwrought.

On a glittering throne the Inca sat—
(Of solid gold 't was builded)—
His mutton was served on a golden plate,
And his gingerbread was gilded.'

And the guards wore golden plumes *so tall*—
And their helmets shone like suns—
They fired at a mark with golden ball,
Which were cast for their golden guns.

The golden-rod waved in every breeze,
And the gold-thread grew in the brakes—
Goldfinches twittered in all the trees,
And gold-fish swam in the lakes.

"I give thee all!" the Inca cried,
"My palace, my guard, my throne—
And the river's bed, and the mountain's side,
Their treasures are thine alone."

Now over his dream a change hath come;
The fields are rocky and bare,
He dreams of his old New England home,
And the memories clustered there.

He walks by the run at Seymour's pond,
Where he hauled the pickerel in;
Ah! the grapes of which he was so fond,
In the former age of *tin*.

Hurrah! Point Rocks! the ocean shore,
And the marching tides deploy,
With the same wild rush and the same wild roar
That thrilled him when a boy.

Now the school-house red, with its hopper roof,
And its dust, and noise, and fun,
And the ferule's whisk, and the sharp reproof,
And the shout when school is done.

Anon he dreams of the Sabbath day,
The Sabbath bell doth toll,
And serious faces throng the way
And serious thoughts the soul.

And when in dreams he had ceased to roam,
And walked by the Yuba river,
He thought of his wife, and his child, and his home,
And of God, the perfect giver.

Why change the treasures of the heart
For glittering lumps like these?
So across the isthmus he took a start,
And came home by way of Chagres.

TRISMEGIST.

WEEKLYANA.

LORD Elgin seems afraid of the metropolis of British India. Half the week is spent at Barrackpore. Is it the small-pox that scares him away? The Health Officer has issued a fresh reminder for vaccination or re-vaccination as the only preventive against that dreaded disease The advertisement will be found elsewhere.

* *

THE arrangements for the administration of the State of Mysore have been completed. The following proclamation, dated Bangalore, the 18th February 1895, has been issued by the Dewan Sir K. Seshadri Iyer:—

"Whereas His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor-General of India in Council has been pleased to declare that the administration of the State of Mysore shall, during the minority of His Highness Maharaja Sri Krishnaraja Wodayar Bahadur, Maharaja of Mysore, be conducted by Her Highness Maharani Vanivilasa Sannidhanada Kempananjammanavaru, C. I., as Regent, and by the Dewan assisted by a Council of three Members, of which he shall be President, Her Highness the Maharani-Regent has been pleased with the approval of the Government of India, to appoint—

(1) Rajadharma Pravina Mr. T. R. A. Thumbu Chetty, Chief judge of the Chief Court of Mysore,

(2) Mr. P N. Krishnamurthi, Judge of the Chief Court of Mysore, and

(3) Khan Bahadur Mr. Abdul Rahman, Deputy Commissioner of Shimoga,

to be Members of the Council aforesaid, for a term of three years, being however eligible for re-appointment at the end of that period.

Her Highness the Maharani Regent has been pleased further to direct that the 2nd and 3rd Members of Council appointed as above shall enter upon their duties after being relieved of the offices they now respectively hold. Mr. Thumboo Chetty will, in addition, retain his position as Chief Judge until relieved of the same in due course.

II. The Rules for the conduct of the business of the said Council, as approved by the Government of India, are as follows:

RULES OF BUSINESS.

1. The Dewan in Council will distribute the work of the State, by

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departments, between himself and the three Councillors, such distribution being recorded in the Council's minutes of proceedings.

2. The member in charge of each department will himself dispose of all ordinary work of such department, and will issue orders in the name of the Mysore Government, referring matters of doubt, delicacy or importance to the Dewan.

3. It will be for the Dewan to determine whether final orders on questions so referred should be issued as in Rule 2, or whether the question should be referred to Council.

If the matter is one which by the next following rule must necessarily be referred to Council, the Dewan will so refer it. But nothing in this rule shall prevent the Dewan from referring any matter to the Council, and if he and the referring member cannot agree, the matter in difference must be placed before Council.

4. The subject specified by His Highness the Maharajah's Notification No. 104, dated 8th July 1881, shall, as heretofore, be placed before the Council.

5. The decisions of the Dewan in Council shall be carried into effect, provided that if the Dewan does not concur in any opinion of the majority of the Council, he may refer the matter to Her Highness as the Regent for final orders.

But nothing in this rule shall conflict with the provision of Act 22 of the Instrument of Transfer, and it will be incumbent on the Dewan to refer to the Resident any matters requiring reference to the Government of India. In any case where a reference to the Resident has been made, whether by Her Highness the Regent or the Dewan, no orders shall be issued which may conflict with the advice of the Resident.

6. The Dewan shall have the right to call for the production of any public records from any of the departments assigned under Rule 1 with a view to any matter being considered in council, notwithstanding that final orders may have been issued by the member in charge of a department.

7. With the exception of intervals of recess specified under notification of Her Highness the Regent, the Council will meet regularly once a week, unless for any special reason the Regent may dispense with its attendance. Her Highness the Regent or the Dewan may summon a Council whenever Her Highness or the Dewan, as the case may be, may deem it necessary.

8. The business at all meetings of the Council will be regulated by the Dewan, and in his absence by the Senior Councillor present.

9. The decisions recorded by the Council on each matter referred to it shall be recorded in a Journal of Proceedings which the President of the meeting shall sign. A copy of this journal shall simultaneously be forwarded to Her Highness the Regent and to the Resident. Any individual member may require a brief abstract of his Minute of dissent on any matter to be recorded.

III. The Additional Rules prescribed by His Highness the late Maharajah under dates the 17th May 1889 and 4th July 1893, for the hearing and disposal of matters coming before the Government either in appeal or in the exercise of powers of revision under section 217th of the Mysore Land Revenue Code, will be separately published hereafter with the necessary amendments."

It is said that Mr. Justice Best of Madras has been offered the Chief Judgeship. Colonel Campbell continues as Private Secretary to the Maharaja and Mr. Whitely as tutor.

With the new arrangements, Mr. Chentsal Rao retires. The Dewan thus notifies the resignation :—

"*Dated Bangalore, the 18th February, 1895.*

In accepting the resignation of Rajamontra Pravina Mr. Chentsal Rao, C. I. E., Her Highness the Maharani-Regent takes the opportunity to place on record the high sense entertained by His Highness the late Maharaja of the distinguished services which as Member of His Highness' Council, Mr. Chentsal Rao has rendered to the Mysore State, and Her Highness regrets that considerations of health have necessitated his retirement from the service of the State which, during the past six years, had derived such valuable help from his conspicuous ability and wide experience."

***

LORD Sandhurst's staff consist of

Mr. S. W. Edgerley, I. C. S., Private Secretary.

Major R. Owen, 21st Hussars, Military Secretary.

Surgeon-Major H. Martin, M. B., Medical Officer

Captain H. G. Heneage, 12th (The Prince of Wales Royal) Lancers, Aid-de-Camp.

Lieutenant B. J. T. Levett, Scots Guards, Aid-de-Camp.

Lieutenant C. W. W. Gabb, 2nd Bombay Lancers, extra Aid-de-Camp.

***

AT a meeting, last Saturday, of the Committee of the Lady Elliott Memorial Fund, Mr. Justice Beverley presiding, it was announced that 333 subscribers had been registered with a total of Rs. 6,378, and that Lady Elliott had commenced giving sittings to Mr. Howard Pullar. It was resolved to keep the list open and to purchase a drumond tiara with the surplus and present it to Lady Elliott.

DEAFNESS. An essay describing a really genuine Cure for Deafness, Singing in Ears, &c., no matter how severe or long-standing, will be sent post free.—Artificial Ear-drums and similar appliances entirely superseded. Address THOMAS KEMPE, VICTORIA CHAMBERS, 19, SOUTHAMPTON BUILDINGS, HOLBORN, LONDON.

THE Vidyasagara Memorial Committee have collected Rs. 8,000. It has been decided to apply only Rs. 3,000 for a marble bust for the Pandit. When will the bust of Mr. Tawney, executed by Mr. A. E. L. Rost, be put in place and unveiled?

***

THE suit in the Court of the Additional Sub-Judge of Alipore in which Mrs. Mary Creet claimed from her brother and mother, Zemindars, Mymensing, twelve lakhs of rupees as her share in her paternal estate, has been compromised. She gives up all claim for two lakhs and twenty thousand rupees.

***

MR. F. W. Badcock having been permitted to retire, Mr. C. M. W. Brett, from Hooghly, becomes District and Sessions Judge of Bhagalpur, Mr. J. F. Bradbury, from Pabna, being appointed District and Sessions Judge of Hooghly.

***

MR. H. G. Cooke being on leave for three months from 1st March, Mr. G. Stevenson, Magistrate and Collector of Cuttack, acts as Commissioner of the Orissa Division and Superintendent of the Tributary Mahals, Orissa, Mr. W. Mande, Settlement Officer and Superintendent of Survey, Cuttack and Puri, acting as Magistrate and Collector of Cuttack, in addition to his own duties.

***

MR. W. E. Gordon Leith has obtained leave of absence for six months from the 27th April next. Mr. H. L. Bell, Barrister-at-Law, Secretary to the Indian Property Association, will, during the period, act as Assistant Secretary to the Government of Bengal in the Legislative Department.

***

THE appointment of Mr. A. S. Judge, District Superintendent of Police, Patna, as Collector of Income-tax, Calcutta, is gazetted this week. His operations will not be limited to Calcutta. He will have control of so much of the district of the 24-Parganas as is under the jurisdiction of the Commissioner of Police, Calcutta, and of so much of the district of Hooghly as is comprised within the limits of the Municipality of Howrah.

***

IT was gazetted last Saturday that "the Governor-General in Council is pleased to appoint Mr. H. W. Gordon, Indian Civil Service, District and Sessions Judge of Saran, at present officiating as a Judge of the High Court of Judicature at Fort William in Bengal, *vice* the Hon'ble Mr. Justice Trevelyan, on furlough, to officiate as a Judge of that Court, *vice* the Hon'ble Mr. Justice Ameer Ali with effect from February 22nd, 1895, until the date on which the Hon'ble Mr. Justice O'Kinealy avails himself of the furlough granted to him by Home Department Notification No. 165 dated the 7th February 1895, and after that date in place of Mr. Justice O'Kinealy, or until further orders." Another order appoints Mr. S. G. Sale to officiate for the remainder of the furlough granted to the Hon'ble Mr. Justice Trevelyan. Another Judge, Mr. Justice Rampini, has also obtained furlough for six months and two days from the 9th March. Mr. J. F. Stevens, Judicial Commissioner of the Central Provinces, will officiate for Mr. Justice Rampini. Thus ends the hope of an officiating Mahomedan Judge for the Bengal High Court.

***

M. GERVAIS COURTELLEMONT has been the third Frenchman to do the pilgrimage to Mecca and the second to come back alive. He did the journey as an Algerian who had been converted. Notwithstanding he posed as an Arab and had perfect command of Arabic, he was looked upon with suspicion by his fellow pilgrims. Without being killed, he circumambulated the Kaaba seven times, kissed the Black Stone and drank of the Zemzem. He found the water not bad, in fact had liked it, found the streets not filthy but clean, and the inhabitants not a rabble of vicious and bloodthirsty fanatics whose chief aim was baksheesh, but loyal and disinterested beings and lovers of liberty and honour.

***

AFTER an investigation of twenty-one days, the Assize Court at Antwerp has found Mme. Joniaux guilty of the murder of her sister, brother, and uncle, and sentenced her to death.

NOTES & LEADERETTES,

OUR OWN NEWS,

&

THE WEEK'S TELEGRAMS IN BRIEF, WITH OCCASIONAL COMMENTS.

A BELIEF is prevalent in high official quarters at St. Petersburg, that Japan is desirous of entering into serious peace negotiations with the Viceroy Li Hung Chang on his arrival in Japan, knowing that a bad impression would otherwise be certainly created in Great Britain, Russia and France. In the meantime, the Viceroy Li-Hung-Chang has had three audiences of his Emperor, and been well received. The Viceroy has agreed to go to Japan as Chinese Ambassador for peace. The representatives of the Powers are advising him to bring about a settlement. The *Times* publishes a telegram from Kobe stating that the Japanese are organising an expedition for the invasion of the island of Formosa. At Wei-hei-wei they are actively engaged in razing the land forts there. According to accounts received in London the Japanese are evacuating their advanced outlying positions round Wei-hai-wei and Ninghai, while the bulk of the army has already sailed for Talienway. The Japanese Diet has voted a new war loan of a hundred million yen.

VICE-ADMIRAL Alexander Buller, C.B., has been appointed to succeed Vice-Admiral the Hon. Sir Edmund Fremantle in command of the British Squadron in China. General Black was to have started on Feb. 28, to take over the command of Her Majesty's forces in Hongkong.

THE Committee of the Reichstag has voted seven million marks for the purpose of constructing new cruisers to protect German commerce in the Far East.

INFLUENZA is raging among all classes throughout Great Britain In consequence of the epidemic, the Criterion Theatre was closed on Saturday. The frost has, however, broken, and genial weather is slowly setting in.

LORD Rosebery caught a chill and is confined to his room. He is suffering from extreme insomnia which interferes with his progress towards recovery. In other respects the condition of the patient has improved. The latest news is that a decided improvement has taken place. There is every sign of his early recovery.

A BANQUET was given on Feb. 27, in honour of the Marquis of Dufferin by the members of the British Chamber of Commerce at Paris. In reply to the toast of his health, Lord Dufferin declared that the relations between Great Britain and France were never more friendly and conciliatory than at present. In fact, the cordiality now existing between the two great nations had never prevailed during his whole tenure of the British Embassy in the French capital. The settlement of the Sierra Leone Hinterland dispute was, he said, a good omen for the arranging in an equally satisfactory manner of the other stubborn questions now pending between Great Britain and the Government of the Republic.

LORD Ripon telegraphed to Sir Henry Loch granting him leave of absence to return home. He will, after coming to England, resign his appointment as Chief Commissioner at the Cape. Sir Hercules Robinson has been appointed to succeed Sir Henry.

THE Russian Mediterranean squadron has orders to proceed to the Pacific Ocean.

DEAFNESS COMPLETELY CURED! Any person suffering from Deafness, Noises in the Head, &c., may learn of a new, simple treatment, which is proving very successful in completely curing cases of all kinds. Full particulars, including many unsolicited testimonials and newspaper press notices, will be sent post free on application The system is, without doubt, the most successful ever brought before the public. Address, Aural Specialist, Albany Buildings, 39, Victoria Street, Westminster, London, S. W.

THE rights of the British-born have found a new development in Egypt. A special mixed court has been founded there for the trial of offences committed by Natives against British officers, soldiers, marines, and sailors. The court is invested with the power of summary judgment without appeal. The *Times*, commenting on the new law, remarks that the position of Nubar Pasha has been thereby strengthened and confirmed, and that the young Khedive has shown the customary discretion which has characterised his reign when vital questions affecting the interests of his country were submitted for his final decision. The Khedive, receiving Lord Cromer on Feb. 25, assured him that no change would be made in the Ministry. On the 27th, the Khedive reviewed all the troops of the garrison at Cairo. He wore the Order of the Bath. After the march-past, the Khedive complimented Major-General Sir Frederick Walker on the efficiency and appearance of the troops.

IT is reported from Morocco that the rebel tribes have invaded and looted Morocco city after several bloody conflicts with the Sultan's troops.

ADVICES from Honolulu state that the court-martial, held on the ex-Queen Lilnokalani, on a charge of complicity with the leaders of the recent abortive insurrection, has sentenced her to five years' imprisonment and a fine of five thousand dollars. The fine will probably be remitted if the ex-Queen departs from Hawaii after the expiration of the term of her imprisonment.

ADVICES from the Niger Coast protectorate state that a punitive expedition, comprising launches manned by blue-jackets and marines from the cruiser St George and the gunboats Widgeon and Thrush, with a force of Haussas from Lokoja, under the command of Sir Claude Macdonald, was lately despatched against the Natives along the Brass River. It attacked and burned the stronghold of Nimbi after sharp fighting, during which Lieutenant Taylor, of the cruiser St. George, and two seamen were killed, and five wounded.

IN the House of Commons, on Feb 25, Mr. Asquith introduced a Bill to terminate the establishment of the Church of England in Wales and Monmouthshire and to make provision in respect of the temporalities thereof. The Bill is identical with that introduced and withdrawn last year. On Feb. 28, the Bill was read for the first time without a division. The motion of Sir W. Harcourt to devote Tuesdays to sittings, and also to take Friday mornings for Government business, was adopted by a majority of fifteen. Sir Michael Hicks Beach opposed the motion on the ground that the sole object of Government was to proceed with Bills which were merely intended to maintain its majority.

ON Feb. 26, the expected debate on Mr. Everett's motion in favour of the holding of a bimetallic conference took place. Sir William Harcourt admitted that the question regarding silver was really a grave one. As he was personally a convinced monometallist, he doubted the utility of holding a conference to discuss bimetallism. It is certain that the interests of the Powers concerned would clash, and he, as Chancellor of the Exchequer, declined to subject the British currency to the mercy of any foreign Power, or to the control of any International Committee of the other Powers. He said that they were welcome to combine with regard to their currency difficulty. He accepted the motion under a distinct understanding that her Majesty's Government was not pledged to bimetallism. In conclusion, Sir William Harcourt said that the British Government was ready to join in any exchange of views on the question.

Mr. Chaplin supported the motion and declared that the closing of Indian Mints was a mortal blow inflicted upon silver. The levying of the duties upon Manchester goods imported into India was no remedy for crippled Indian finance. He regretted his right hon. friend Mr. Balfour's absence from the House that night owing to illness. He wished he had been there to powerfully support the motion with his eloquence. After some further debate, Mr. Everett's motion was adopted by the House without a division.

The *Times* regrets that the proceedings show a weakening resistance to the question of bimetallism hitherto made by the House of Commons.

THE English press generally rejoiced at the prospect of the nomination of M. de Staal—a cautious statesman and a lover of peace—as chief of the Russian Foreign Office. But it was not to be. Prince Lobanoff has been appointed successor to the late M. De Giers.

THE Secretary of State for India, in reply to a question, said that he expected the capitation rate payable by the War Office on account of the British forces in India to be maintained during the coming financial year, would be seven pounds ten shillings per head, giving a total of £548,000 sterling. The question whether this amount was to be increased or decreased would be considered in the course of the approaching enquiry into the proportion of the charges to be borne by the British and Indian Exchequers. Mr. Fowler also stated that a discussion was still being carried on regarding the question of manufacturing cordite in India.

THE Chancellor of the Exchequer, in reply to a question put by Sir William Wedderburn, said that, taking all circumstances into consideration, he considers that the British Exchequer ought to bear the whole cost of the Opium Commission. The *Times* announces that Mr. Pease signs with the majority the report of the Opium Commission and that Mr. H. J. Wilson alone is presenting a memorandum of dissent on certain main questions in the report. After the part Mr. Wilson had taken at the enquiry, he could not be true to himself to agree with the majority.

SIR Charles Crosthwaite has been nominated a member of the Secretary of State's Council for India in the place of Sir Robert H. Davies, whose term of office has expired. The question arises—who is to be the next Lieutenant-Governor of the N.-W. P. and Chief Commissioner of Oudh?

THE Investiture of the Star of India and the Indian Empire will be held, by the Viceroy, the Grand Master of the Orders, at Government House, on Thursday next, at 9-30 P. M. Full Dress or Evening Dress must be worn on the occasion. The gates will be closed for carriages at 9-15. The notifications on the subject will be found elsewhere.

THE High Court has declared the validity of the will of the late Mahant Madhub Chunder Giri of Tarakeswar. The Advocate-General had worked heroically to upset the judgment of the District Judge of Hooghly and has won the day. Messrs. Justices O'Kinealy and Gordon, who heard the appeal, have decreed it, and directed that probate do issue to Satish Chunder Giri as executor. The costs of the appeal are to be paid by the respondents and so much as cannot be realized from them to be paid out of the estate.

SATURDAY last was a gala day to the girls in the Church of England Zenana Mission Schools superintended by Miss Hyton at Baranagar and its neighbourhood. It was their annual prize-day, held, as usual, in the house of Mr. Thoms, Manager of the Jute Mills. There were about 300 girls assembled, being an advance on the numbers of previous years, while the ceremony was in other respects also a more interesting one. Mr. and Mrs. Thoms, whose hospitality and interest in all good work are wellknown, had invited several of their friends, who were greatly pleased with the appearance and demeanour of the children. There were songs and recitations and, of course, sweetmeats to the little ones to make them relish their prize-books and dolls more heartily.

IT is much to be regretted that the native press should still harp on the assault by Mr. Beatson Bell. Why, what is it that these journals would have? The very head and front of Mr. Bell's offending has been that, rightly or wrongly, believing himself to have been made the victim of a conspiracy among the Zemindar's *amla*, he gave the man he saw before him a few cuts with a small cane that happened to be in his hand. The character of the annoyance has been set forth in Mr. Beatson-Bell's explanation. To one that has not been subjected to it, that annoyance may appear petty, especially as Mr. Beatson-Bell was not in the midst of a desert. Unfortunately, the victim of an annoyance is incapable of making a philosophic estimate of the degree of wrath it should excite. When a man is out of temper, he flies up at a trifle. Supposing that the cuts were of the precise number stated by their victim, or that some of them drew blood, the matter can only be deplored as an ugly accident. Surely, Mr. Beatson-Bell's conduct cannot be taken as evidence of a general determination on the part of the Indian Civil Service to go about, cane in hand, inflicting cuts on every native suspected of pro-Congress sympathies. Sir Charles Elliott is not wrong in holding that the exposure which Mr. Bell has brought upon himself, and the pecuniary compensation he has freely awarded to the victim of his temper, have been sufficient punishment. Sir Charles has also censured him. The claims of justice have thus been satisfied. Surely, nobody will suggest that Mr. Bell has merited dismissal from the service by what he has done, or that his has been an offence which cannot be washed away without incarceration in some Indian gaol, hanging being, of course, out of the question. To say that an official is bound under every circumstance to keep his temper,—that, in fact, he should never be in a huff,—is to insist upon his being more than a man. Then, again, one does not, by becoming an official, lose one's right to assert the privileges of a gentleman. A hundred circumstances may be imagined under which it would be the duty of one professing to be a gentleman to break the law by using his fists or his walking stick We do not say that the law would act unwisely by taking notice of such conduct, or that there should be no law for punishing such conduct. But the fact is, men are men, and should be treated as such. Mr. Beatson-Bell is a man. He committed an offence. He has expiated it. If the case had gone on before an Indian Magistrate, could the accused have been fined even Rs. 50? It would be unreasonable to demand anything more.

MR. Beatson-Bell's Deputy, however, cannot be let off gently. The explanation offered by the Bengal Government is scarcely satisfactory. He had been suffering from cerebral complaints. He had taken medical leave and was allowed to rejoin without a medical certificate of restoration to sanity or cerebral soundness. Such an explanation looks well on paper. But does it agree with the facts? Did this precious Deputy exhibit similar marks of cerebral weakness in any other case either before or after? Are any indications of cerebral irregularity noticeable in the explanation he submitted of his conduct? If there was madness, there was method in it. That madness was such that it induced the man to act in a way best calculated to gratify his official superior, by protecting him from the legal consequences of his act. Mr Secretary Cotton, by hastily yielding to the theory of cerebral derangement, as offering the most satisfactory explanation of what the Deputy did, has himself incurred the imputation of cerebral weakness. If his cerebrum had been in good working order, why, he ought to have called for a full report of all the acts of the Deputy from the day of his rejoining to that when he was again given leave. Until that is done, and some more instances are given of the Deputy's vagaries under his cerebral malady, the action of the Bengal Government must remain inexplicable. The man has been promoted when he should have been punished.

THE indigenous institutions of Sanskrit learning in India have always been supported by the munificence of its princes and people. Hindu chiefs always delighted in endowing them with splendid gifts of land. The great Akbar, who was an eclectic in religion, encouraged Mussalman Moulvis and Hindu Pandits equally. To come to our own times the great landed house of Burdwan and the somewhat lesser house of Nuddea have freely given away land to Brahmans noted for their learning and engaged in teaching. The gentry and the common people also have always contributed their mite towards the same end. The Rishis forbade the sale of knowledge. Among the foremost duties of a Brahman are sacrifice on his own account, officiating at the sacrifices of other people, the making and receiving of gifts, and learning and teaching. Whatever may be the moral force of Hinduism in our day, good Brahmans, engaged in teaching pupils, never charge tuition fees. They have even to support their pupils with food. It is this that accounts for the liberality of all sections, of the people towards those engaged in the task of communicating knowledge. Large gifts like those which helped to establish the house of the present premier nobleman of Bengal, for the Maharaja of Durbhanga had for his ancestors an illustrious line of learned Brahmans who for the number

of pupils they taught and fed were almost like the Rishi *kulapatis* of old and who for this were honoured with extensive gifts of land, may be rare in our time. But it is often seen that no Hindu gentleman who is even tolerably well off, can perform the *çraddha* of his deceased father or mother, or marry his son or daughter, without spending an appreciable amount in gifts to learned Brahmans. If the sums annually distributed throughout Bengal on such occasions be added together, the total would come up to a very respectable figure that will, besides, be fifty times greater than what the Bengal Government spends on high and mass education. The Brahmans who are recipients of those gifts are always treated with the greatest respect Those actually engaged in teaching,—that is, owning *tôlas*,—generally receive more than those who are not so engaged. And although there is no system of public examinations by which the merits have been ascertained of the individual members of every invited conclave, yet disputes seldom arise on the score of inequality of gifts resting on accepted estimates of individual merit. Every Pandit occupies a distinctly recognised position, in consequence of which the measure of his dole is hardly disputable. The relations, therefore, between those learned Brahmans and the lay public are of the most cordial kind. They are, as a class, innocent and quiet and simple-minded. Most of them cultivate learning for learning's sake and not for the advantages it may bring. A few amongst them are irritable, but their irritability is excited only in course of dialectical disputations In truth, that irritability is only a particular form of impatience of stupidity in an adversary, for the most irritable Pandit, as soon as he is encountered by a disputant of real learning and skill, at once shows himself an altered man Their utter want of worldliness is illustrated by many a current anecdote. One of them, having got a written grant about a piece of land from the Burdwan Raj, committed the writing to memory and instead of preserving, tore it off into pieces. Another, having been honoured by a territorial prince with a similar grant, addressed the giver, saying, that he who could trace the connection of ideas underlying the Vedánta Sutras did not deserve to be trifled with by a mere wordly man of the giver's calibre, for was it not evident that the gift was made simply to wean him from his studies so that the giver's own Pandit might soon succeed in vanquishing him in argument? The attractions of wealth would enervate him and meanwhile his puny antagonist would, by dint of continuous application, distance him in the race of knowledge In vain the princely giver disclaimed such motives as were imputed to him, and repeatedly solicited the acceptance of the gift. The benefaction was not accepted Everybody knows the story of Rumnath of Nuddea, who regarded himself enormously rich in consequence of his owning a full grown tamarind tree in his yard, whose leaves daily afforded him the sweetest of decoctions for his only curry When the Calcutta Sanskrit College was founded, Professor Wilson asked the Pandits he had selected to name the salary that would satisfy them. They took time to consider and at last chose one from among themselves to bear the message to Mr Wilson that they would ask for Rs 3 a day but that none of them would agree to serve for less than Rs 2 a day The announcement came like a surprise upon Professor Wilson, for he had reported to Government that the Professors of the Sanskrit College would not accept salaries less than Rs. 250 a month. When such men are insulted at any house, who is there, penetrated with a love of learning, that would not be filled with real grief? A story has reached us of a gentleman having insulted one of the most learned Pandits of Calcutta at a *çraddha* recently performed at one of the neighbouring towns. The number of Pandits invited was by no means large The gentleman took upon himself to distribute the gifts. Never having assisted at a distribution of the kind before at his own or anywhere else, he suffered his temper to get the better of his judgment and addressed words of due insult to one of the honoured and honourable guests. The latter asserted his independence, threw the invitation card at the gentleman's face, and walked out of the house, followed by dozens of his class. The host, the performer of the *çraddha*, soon heard of his friend's misdeed and ran out for apologising to the insulted representatives of ancient learning. He prostrated himself before them, with tears of grief running down his cheeks. The scriptures say that the heart of the Kshatriya is tempered as a razor, while that of the Brahman is soft as fresh cheese. All of them forgave the insult, but refused to accept any gift at the house. If the host was truly penitent, they said, he should send the gifts after them to their respective abodes.

MR. T. Palit, Barrister-at-Law, has been convicted, by a Bench of Barrister Magistrates in the Police Court, for contempt of Court. He was heard to say, addressing the Bench, that "it was unfortunate that you form a Court." When taxed, Mr Palit said that he did not remember having used the expression, and that if he had, he withdrew the words and expressed regret for them. Both Mr. N. N. Mitter and Nawab Ashgar Ali Dilar Jung who formed the Bench had heard the words as also the Bench Clerk, and unless Mr. Palit admitted his offence, the Court would proceed against him for contempt. Mr. Palit sticking to the conditional verbal apology, the charge was gone into and the Bench Clerk examined, but no orders were passed the same day, the further hearing being adjourned. The matter was again taken up on Tuesday last, when Mr. Jackson, on behalf of Mr Palit, contended that the Court, not having passed the final order on the first day, was precluded under the law from further enquiry. Another Court must try Mr. Palit. This view was not acceptable to the Bench which held that it was, indeed, necessary under the law to commence proceedings at once, but not imperative that they should be finished at the same sitting Mr. Jackson pressed that the case might be transferred to another Magistrate, or he would call both the Magistrates, one after the other, as witnesses in the same proceedings. Finding the Court unyielding and after repeating the regret of Mr. Palit, Mr. Jackson left the Court. Mr Palit was now left to defend himself. He did not want to be in the position of a man defending his own cause and asked for an adjournment. Mr. Hilder, who was in Court, would not come to his rescue as suggested by the Court. At this stage, Mr. Lalmohun Ghose appeared and asked for a postponement to study the case The Court here handed over to the counsel copies of proceedings and the case was put back for a time. When the Court reassembled, there was another change of counsel. Mr Hill now appeared and repeated Mr. Jackson's arguments, remarking—"I am in a little difficulty. I do not know exactly in what way the Court is proceeding." Whereupon, the Chairman, Mr. Mitter, "There are two courses open to us—to proceed under Sec. 480 or 482, Criminal Procedure Code plus 487. If we find Mr Palit guilty, we will pass sentence under Sec. 228 of the Indian Penal Code." After a further parley, the Bench Clerk was cross-examined by Mr Hill. The Clerk remembered that Mr. Palit had used the words "that it is a misfortune you are a Court." Mr. Cranenburgh was next examined He deposed and explained that Mr Palit had said "it is a misfortune that you as a Court will not hear or listen to me at all." He was not quite sure that the word was "hear" or "listen." It was the Chairman who in charging Mr Palit used the words "it is a misfortune you are a Court at all." In closing the defence, Mr Hill said—'That is all the evidence I propose to call Mr. Palit cannot admit having made use of any such expression as he is said to have done But if he did so it was unconsciously used by him, and he unreservedly withdraws it and expresses his regret for having used them Mr Palit never had any intention of being disrespectful to the Court If the Court desires to have that stated in writing I am perfectly prepared, on behalf of my client, to put it in. Mr Palit pleads not guilty.' After an hour and a half, the Court convicted Mr. Palit under section 228, and ordered him to pay a fine of Rs 20, in default to undergo one week's simple imprisonment The fine was paid down The Court was crowded with native barristers, pleaders, and others

This is not the first time that Mr Palit has been so convicted. In the previous instance, however, he was acquitted by the High Court This time, he has not yet applied to that tribunal Will he not?

LAST week Mr Justice Chunder Madhub Ghose entertained Major General Lance, returning from the Presidency Command, to a farewell Garden Party at his residence, in Albert Road. Those not in the secret were also treated to a surprise. The host spoke a verbal address eulogising the General's brilliant military career, and his popularity, due to his sympathy, with the Natives of India. In reply, the General found in the distinguished native gentlemen present a striking indication of the possibility in the future of an intercourse between the British and Native subjects of Her Majesty which promised well for the country.

To-night, Mr. and Mrs. W C. Bonnerjee give at their residence, in Park Street, an Evening Party to meet the Hon'ble Mr. P. M. Mehta.

THE Prize-day at the Calcutta Medressa came off last Saturday There was a large and respectable gathering. The Hon'ble Prince Jehan Kadar presided and conducted himself excellently. He spoke in Urdu and spoke well and wisely The satisfaction of the Mahomedan community knew no bounds as may appear from the remarks of the Hon'ble Khan Bahadur Abdul Jubbar who moved the vote of thanks to the Chair :—

I rise, gentlemen, to propose a vote of thanks to the chair. This is, I believe, the first time in the annals of the Medressa that a Mahomedan gentleman has presided at the distribution of prizes to the meritorious students of both the Arabic and the Anglo-Persian Departments of the oldest institution in the metropolis of India. I am certain it is as gratifying to me as to all my co-religionists, old and young, to see on the chair to-day a scion of a most illustrious Mahomedan House. Apart from his family respectability, his personal qualities endear him to all with whom he comes in contact The students of the Medressa, specially those of the Arabic Department, will value their prizes the more on account of their distribution by the Hon'ble Sir Prince Jehan Kader Bahadur, whose name is a household word among the Mahomedan community in India.

This institution, as you have already heard from the Chairman, was established by Mr. Warren Hastings with the main object of qualifying the Mahomedans for appointments to the Judicial service in this country, and so long as Persian was the court language and the Mahomedan law was applied to the administration of criminal justice, success in the Medressa was a passport to success in life. But unhappily the abolition of Persian from the Courts and the supersession of the Mahomedan law have reduced the Mahomedans to the condition in which you now find the majority of the most respectable Mahomedan families in Bengal. Not only are they in straitened circumstances but their very family respectability is questioned Therefore, my advice to you, my young friends, is that you should do all you can to acquire a knowledge of the English language so as not to lag behind in the race of competition. I must not be understood to discourage the study of Arabic and Persian. On the contrary, I have the greatest respect for those who sacrifice their prospects in this world for the sake of learning and religion Religion is of the first importance to us and a knowledge of Arabic is a key to it On Ulemas must always occupy the highest position in society. The Prophet has said that our Ulemas are equal in dignity to the prophets of the Israelites. But while the Ulemas have their duties as spiritual guides, there must be others who should work hard to maintain the grandeur of Islam I exhort those to gain the advantages which a knowledge of Western literature and science will give them We have already suffered much humiliation and become as poor as a church mouse on account of our past neglect, and it is for you, my young co-religionists, to ameliorate the condition of the Mahomedan subjects of Her Britannic Majesty. Year after year you hear the report that there are no qualified Mahomedan candidates for employment in the public service, and although the report is not perfectly correct, yet I must confess that the Mahomedan youths have not shown that zeal for a successful college career which the youths of other communities have done.

REIS & RAYYET.

Saturday, March 2, 1895

SIR CHARLES ELLIOTT'S LAST WORDS ON LOCAL SELF GOVERNMENT.

THE Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal speaks graciously of the working of Municipalities in the past year. The Resolution for 1893-94 is probably the last on the subject from Sir Charles Elliott, and the Bengal Municipalities may well congratulate themselves on having merited his approbation on the eve of his departure. Sir Charles has criticised, rather sharply, their action in the past, but his parting words are conceived in a spirit of kindliness quite becoming the occasion. It is never to be forgotten, Sir Charles says, that those are the best friends of local Self-Government who most honestly indicate its failings. Yes, criticism the most unfriendly may proceed from pure motives. It is only to be regretted that Sir Charles sometimes forgets this when his own actions are criticised in the press. The failing, however, is universal of our not being able to act up to the principles we profess. Speaking of the Municipalities, the results of the past year's administration, in Sir Charles' opinion, fully vindicate their usefulness as popular institutions. Improvement has followed as the effect of criticism in every case. Suggestions made have been cordially adopted. In places where medical expenditure was insufficient, it has been increased; a broader view has been taken of the duty of Municipalities in respect of elementary education; something has been done towards improving drainage and water-supply; and increased activity has been shown in the preparation of schemes for the execution of these important reforms.

This testimony, from the head of the Government, is of no small value. Surely, criticism has its uses as its times and its limits, and, above all, its manners. Sir Charles acknowledges the progress that has been made, and where it falls short of the standard, he is not disposed to be unduly strict or severe. On the contrary, he palliates failings with every consideration and courtesy. Sir Charles does not forget that Municipal business throughout the province is conducted by gentlemen who, with few exceptions, give their time gratuitously, which they can often ill spare. Remembering this, he recognises that a great measure of success has been attained, and that, as a whole, the Commissioners have deserved well of their fellow-countrymen. The spirit of these remarks is certainly worthy of the head of the Government and will go far to soothe any irritation of the past.

Sir Charles has great expectations from the amended Municipal Act. So have we, where the Commissioners are of the right sort. He calls the year a notable one in the Municipal history of Bengal. A vista of further usefulness opens before the people. The amendments of the law have been designed to improve the position of the Commissioners. The new Commissioners, therefore, enter upon their period of office with larger opportunities and a fairer horizon than their predecessors. The question is as to the calibre of the Commissioners. Where they are of the proper stuff, well and good. Where otherwise, the opportunities, we fear, are likely to be wasted.

Eminently satisfactory as its tone is, the Resolution, concludes with words that should be a chart for the guidance of municipal bodies. "The Lieutenant-Governor repeats his aspiration that more general attention should be paid to the four cardinal requirements of a municipal population,—water-supply, drainage, conservancy and primary education; and that greater vigour should be thrown into the administration generally by the more punctual collection of municipal dues, by a closer observance of account rules and a more complete supervision of subordinates."

In this view of municipal responsibility generally, and in particular, of the amended Municipal Act, we agree. We have, on more than one occasion, made our acknowledgments to Mr. Bourdillon for the success with which he has got that Act passed. The Act is a decided improvement. It has largely defined and increased the powers of Municipal Commissioners. Although the leading strings might have been more relaxed and there might have been more of confidence and less of interference in details, still grave and important responsibilities lie upon the new body of Commissioners. Time will show how they prove themselves equal to their task. But there can be little doubt that if greater use is made of the extended powers of taxation and of control over the water-supply and other sanitary requirements, an era of progress will have been entered upon, fraught with the best effects upon the health and comfort of the people. With intelligence in the Commissioners, Mr. Bourdillon's measure deserves success, and we must say that if it does not realise what he so earnestly expects from it, the fault will lie very much at our own door.

The chief difficulty in the way of progress, in this as in most other things, is financial. The present Resolution shows that this difficulty ought no longer to put off the hand of reform. The Resolution discusses the incidence of municipal taxation which is far from uniform or adequate. From a statement comparing the incidence of municipal taxation in Bengal with the results in the North-Western Provinces, the Punjab, Bombay, and Assam, it is shown that Bengal stands lowest in the scale. Turning, again, to details of municipal taxation in the towns in Bengal, the greatest inequalities are observed. The incidence varies considerably, and even headquarters of districts are found to pay a light taxation out of all proportion to their position or their needs. This is ascribed for the most part to the appointment of Ward Committees, but is it no reflection upon the controlling authorities, so apt to interfere in the pettiest details, if they have so long allowed this taxation to stand so low? Here was a case where interference was truly called for, but there was none. The Lieutenant-Governor considers it a great error to entrust Ward Committees with the duty of assessment and insists upon the main body of the Commissioners deciding upon matters of such importance or entrusting it to sub-committees of persons selected for their position or acknowledged impartiality. The appointment of Assessors will also be desirable in some cases. Whatever course, however, is taken, it is mistaken philanthropy, as the Government justly points out, to abstain from raising the taxation where this could be done without undue hardship. There is urgent need in almost all municipalities for improved sanitation, and if we are to wipe off the reproach that is levelled against us of apathy to our insanitary surroundings, we must be prepared to scrutinise our tax-register more closely. We think there is no denying the truth that we live amidst conditions inimical to health. The standard of sanitation must be raised, if our people are to live and enjoy the inestimable blessing of health. If for this the penalty of an additional taxation has to be paid, we think the good sense of our countrymen will reconcile them to the necessity. At the same time, it is to be hoped that the assessing agency will be kept within moderate bounds, and not allowed to exercise a vigour which will be productive of actual hardship

THE *UMEDWAR*.

As a general candidate for any appointment, the Umedwar is a very interesting character. Of late years, his number has been rapidly increasing. He is looked upon as a public nuisance by European and native officials alike. Notwithstanding, he is a necessary evil and cannot be avoided. As competition and other restrictions have practically placed Chubb's locks on all the entrances to public service in almost every department, so the number of the Umedwar in every grade, from a Nawab or Raja-ling to a poor Baboo, Lala, or Shaik, is increasing to a dangerous extent. One particular class seems to be marked by strong features. These are in quest only of appointments. It is this particular class that we shall endeavour to describe.

The movements of an Umedwar of this particular variety are rather mysterious, his assiduity and perseverance wonderful, his sagacity and shrewdness praiseworthy, his information about the relations of different persons in public offices unlimited, his forbearance very great, his attendance at the houses of officials most regular, his politeness proverbial, his nature inquisitive, his health weather-proof, his legs nature's bicycle, his head always cool, his memory unfailing as regards initials and names of European officers, and his capacity to array his testimonials most systematically within the shortest notice very laudable. He has always (whether borrowed or not) a decent suit of clothes, compatible with his position, with the inseparable adjunct of a *Pugree* if he is a Lala or a Shaik. About chhota hazree he is seen slowly moving into the "compound" of the Deputy Saheb who is known to be influential. As he proceeds towards the Bungalow, he carefully examines everything and every face he sees. He has a graceful salam with a suppressed polite smile for every servant of the house from the Khansaman to the Munshee or Ustadjee (private teacher of children). When surveying the compound with his ever watchful eyes, he is not unmindful of the bundle of certificates in his pocket. His hands are there, to be sure of the existence of the credentials and letters of recommendation. He has cultivated the habit of speaking slowly in a tone that rouses the compassion of his hearer. On arrival at the verandah, where the servants generally sit, the saluting process is indiscriminately repeated with great energy to make a favourable impression on the minds of the inmates of the Deputy Saheb's house. As a prompt return, he is offered a seat in which he sits like a tame cat until sent for by the master of the house who is in his study or reception room. On entering, and before he has a glimpse of the Deputy Saheb, he makes low bows until he is close by the table where the Deputy Saheb is seated. He is not anxious for a seat for himself, nor draws the nearest chair for the purpose, but continues standing—the picture of pity. On being asked the object of his visit, he commences with a short and terse description of his history, his misfortunes, and his qualifications and claims (referring now and then to his certificates and reading portions of them from memory). He then praises the Deputy in some choice and select sentences and asks him either to confer on him any particular post or enlist him a general candidate. With a shower of blessings both in prose and verse he retires from the room after hearing the order of the Deputy Saheb, but in going out of the room he never turns his back towards the Deputy Saheb, a difficult feat in walking, especially in a room full of furniture. The Deputy Saheb who has enough experience of candidates in many ways knows what to say to the Umedwar. He, perhaps, says "I will see what I can do for you;" or "I will bear you in mind when any vacancy occurs," or, "remind me if there is any vacancy under some of my friends." These empty phrases of hope the Deputy Saheb has learnt from his Civilian superiors and knows to use them properly. The Umedwar is encouraged and becomes more persistent in his quest of employment.

From the next morning the visit is repeated to the house and no inclemency of the weather prevents it. Mornings and evenings the Umedwar is seen loitering about the house or the garden. He cannot have any interview with the Deputy Saheb, but he is still haunting him like a ghost. He gradually learns from the servants the habits and movements of the Deputy and the hours when he sits in different rooms and the verandah, and accordingly he places himself in a position from which the *Mahap* or *Gar bhaiwaz* can be easily seen. Perhaps in the morning or evening he manages to salute him once, whether the compliment is returned or not. In office or Court also, however busy the Deputy may be, the salam is forced upon him. For some days, the Umedwar stations himself in different positions near the portico, under the verandah, in front of the Deputy's study, or under a tree with the boys or respectable servants of the house. He gradually gains their favour and makes himself popular with them by his quiet and polite disposition. He does not know to contradict any one. He would not refuse to do some little errands for the servants or the boys, and will sometimes join them in chess or lawn-tennis, unknown to the master of the house. Thus, in a short time, he establishes himself in the Deputy Saheb's house, where every

one appreciates his gentlemanly manners and has a good word for him. He now spends his mornings and evenings for the most part in the house of the Deputy Babu who knows nothing about his having already ingratiated himself into the favours of every member of the household. Thus, with free access to the house, he goes and waits there without disturbing any body. Watching for half an hour the opportunity for enquiring after the welfare of the *mosabeb*, he expresses that polite desire by a graceful twist of his face with meaningful smile.

After establishing himself well in the field of Umedwari and gaining sufficient information, he increases his salutations to the Deputy Saheb and pays him occasional formal visits for five minutes which means *salamkurna* (saluting). Now and then he brings information of kinds and communicates it to the Deputy Saheb. The Deputy cannot now think of hearing him lightly and gets gradually tired of his uncalled for presence in the house. Now that stage has been reached when the Umedwar is seen under every tree in the garden or the compound like an automatic saluting statue, and the Deputy Saheb is saluted from every point of the compass.

The object is gained. The Deputy now seriously thinks of the Umedwar. How to get rid of him? He interests himself in the Umedwar, is in search of an employment for him to get him out of the way. He finds employment for him somewhere. The Umedwar's visits are now less frequent---they are quarterly or six monthly, and on important occasions only. It is very difficult for native officers to deal with typical Umedwars, especially when they are recommended by respectable and influential men. Umedwari has become really an art and those who know it equally succeed with Europeans and Natives.

One Umedwar succeeded in getting a good appointment from the Commissioner of a Division by making himself the lamp post of his gate for nearly three months. He is now holding a respectable office. Another made himself the saluting statue of the gate of a Director of Public Instruction and was admitted into the lower grade of the Educational service. One's task would not end if one goes on enumerating all the dodges that have been played by Umedwars who are now respectable persons in society, for the salaries they draw and the influence they have acquired over their European office-heads.

The Umedwar, however, is no new creation under the sun. The genus has always existed under Hindu, Pathan, Mogul and British Supremacy. The types may and do vary with the place of domicile or the character of the rule brought about by Time. The story we think is pretty well known of an Umedwar ultimately becoming the Dewan of the Burdwan Raj, during early British times, by a very simple act. The particular individual of the genus entered Burdwan with only a few copper pieces in his pocket, and a *lugi* (pole) measuring 4 standard cubits. One fine morning he began to measure the area on which the palace stood. He measured and remeasured, taking notes the while, all the sides of the vast building, and having finished the palace began to measure the areas of the neighbouring chowks. The Maharaja soon heard of the man and calling him to the presence questioned him as to who he was and what he wanted. The Umedwar had expected as much and had been ready with his answer which was to the effect that, having seen the mansion of the incumbent Dewan, a doubt had entered his mind as to whether it was really larger than the Maharaja's palace. It was for settling that doubt of his that he had come all the way from a distant place, unprovided with funds and had completed his measurements. The Maharaja became inquisitive and questioned the man as to the result of the measurements taken. He was informed that the Dewan's mansoin slightly, if at all, was smaller. From that moment the Maharaja became jealous of his Dewan and soon got rid of him, appointing the unknown adventurer in the vacant place.

The Indian Association for the Cultivation of Science.

Practical Class in Chemistry under Babu Rajendra Chandra Datta, F.C.S., On Wednesday, the 6th Inst., at 4 15 P. M. *Subject*: Iron and Manganese. On Tuesday, the 7th Inst., at 4 15 P. M. *Subject*: Nickel, Cobalt, and Zinc. On Friday, the 8th Inst., at 4 15 P. M. *Subject*: Barium, Strontium, and Calcium. On Saturday, the 9th Inst., at 3 P. M. *Subject*: Potassium, Iodium, Ammonium, and Magnesium

Lecture by Babu Syamadas Mukherjee, M. A., on Thursday, the 7th Inst., at 4 P. M. *Subject*: Theory of Projection.

DR. SAMBHU CHUNDER MOOKERJEE. III.

Darwin tells us that a nation's vitality may be measured by the length of the interval between the attainment of full growth in the average unit and the advent of old age. The longer this period of lusty prime, the more intense is the vitality of the race: and when decay sets in as soon as complete development is reached, the extinction of the race is within measurable distance. Few, indeed, of the inhabitants of the Delta reach the span of seventy years, allotted by King David of old as the extreme limit of human life, but which now, thanks to physical education and the spread of sanitary knowledge, is regarded as indicating the confines merely of old age. Mookerjee, when our acquaintance began, was only 46 and looked 60. Three years later, in 1886, he showed unmistakable signs of breaking up. The attacks of his old foe, the asthma, became acuter and more frequent: and opium ceased to give him complete relief. The time was one of fierce journalistic activity: for the third and last Burmese war was in progress and its events demanded close vigilance. His attitude as regards the then Viceroy's policy was eminently characteristic of his bent of mind. He held in abhorrence anything savouring of greed and injustice and regarded the invasion of King Theebaw's territories, inevitable as we now know it to have been, with deep suspicion. But when he found that the "reptile press" made the campaign a peg on which to hang crude and disloyal attacks on the British Government, he rallied to the side of order, and was the first among native journalists to declare his frank acceptance of established facts. The sedentary habits engendered by early neglect and confirmed by the exigencies of his profession, impaired the elasticity of his constitution. In 1890 he was warned by a terrible attack of pneumonia that the sands of his life were running out. It is to the credit of his townsfolk of Baranagore that his seeming recovery should have evoked a public thanksgiving there. Thenceforward he was too evidently a broken man. Acute chest troubles followed the slightest chill or indiscretion in diet: and each attack left him permanently weaker. It is to this cause that his death was directly due. On the 26th January, 1894, he complained, on awaking, of difficulty of breathing: and was alarmed by the absence of the cough and expectoration which had always given him relief. On the 2nd February fever supervened; and his life-long friend, Dr. Mahendra Lal Sircar, at once detected symptoms of pneumonia. Throughout the phases of this most distressing malady his mind continued clear and his judgment calm: and he was able to dictate bulletins to his medical adviser, detailing each step of his progress towards the end. On the 6th February he sank into a state of nervous prostration, worn out by insomnia and struggling with his cruel foe. On Wednesday the 7th he woke apparently much better; but, alas! it was one of those fleeting Indian summers which deceive those gathered round a bed of death. At three P. M., the final stage set in. It was prolonged for nearly four hours: and then the laboured breathing stopped and the large heart was stilled for ever.

It is difficult for a European, however deep his sympathies may be for all his fellow creatures born like him to sorrow, to comprehend the inner working of a nature so complex as Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee's. The groundwork was, of course, his Hindu origin. He was not for nought the descendant of thirty generations of high priests: and he consistently stood by his order. For the greater part of his life he rigidly abstained from animal food and even fish. In the closing years increasing weakness rendered a stimulating diet indispensable; but it was adopted with the greatest reluctance, and in deference to his friends' entreaties. His inherited prejudices were continually at war with those liberal impulses which were the growth of a life-long devotion to letters. Thus he was always ready to welcome those of his countrymen who had outraged unenlightened public opinion by crossing the seas; and he once advised a friend, who consulted him as to the readiest method of gaining notoriety, to visit Europe and take his wife with him. But after receiving a visit from one of the "England-returned" he always ordered *the hookah* used by the caller to be emptied and cleaned, and everything polluted by his touch to be destroyed. In this struggle between inbred conviction and acquired culture, the latter was, on the whole, victorious. His entire life was a protest against that foolish and, indeed, suicidal doctrine which lays down that there is no excellence of life or thought beyond the Hindu pale. Mahommedans were to be found amongst his closest friends: and he would frequently expatiate on the contrast between the exquisite courtesy of high-born followers of the Prophet and the thinly-disguised barbarism of so many "educated" Hindus. The late Nawab Abdool Luteef Khan Bahadur, who in point of good breed-

ing could have given points to Lord Chesterfield, was one of his inseparables. On one occasion they stood together as leaders of a distinctly Mahommedan movement. During the last Russo-Turkish war, the Nawab organized a public meeting for the purpose of congratulating the Turks on their early successes at Plevna. Sir Richard Temple, then Lieutenant-Governor, regarded the demonstration as one likely to offend Muscovite susceptibilities, and forbade it. Mookerjee was appealed to by the aggrieved Mahommedans, and he had courage to address a representation to Lord Beaconsfield, then Premier. He promptly received a gracious reply: and the inhibition was removed. The same breadth of mental vision led him to distrust the so-called "national" movement, which aims at teaching men to swim without going into the water. He regarded the Congress and all its work as premature and as inspired by ignorance of mankind. Still colder was his sympathy for that foolish and dangerous agitation ostensibly directed at the conservation of the Cow. His attitude here was not due to any disregard for the interests of the brute creation, but to an acquaintance with the secret springs which move the wire-pullers. He was a firm friend to English rule because his instincts told him that it was not only the best but the only possible rule; and because it was transparently inspired by a deep sense of justice. Justice, indeed, was far more really his god than any of the divinities of his Pantheon. His gorge rose at a tale of wrong: and thus his impulsive nature often led him to pour forth unmeasured diatribes on men and measures which calm reflection showed him to be in no way deserving of censure. His acquiescence in the politically inevitable did not militate against a becoming racial pride. Mookerjee unconsciously plagiarized King George the Third's utterance on a memorable occasion, and gloried in the name of Bengali.* He always fired up when his countrymen were traduced, as they often are, by critics who are content to take their dates secondhand.†

Heinrich Heine said "people may prate of the pleasures of poverty; but I prefer champagne and the Order of Bath,"---therein showing that his brilliant but erratic genius was associated with defective sympathies, perhaps with vulgarity of soul: Mookerjee was distinctly his superior in this respect. With aristocratic tastes and a love of sumptuous surroundings---his library was one of the best in India---his heart went out to fellow-creatures less fortunately placed. He felt as keenly as Cicero did the brotherhood of man. It is told of him that while waiting one day in his carriage at the door of a Chowringhee mansion, he was accosted by a degraded specimen of the genus "loafer," with the usual whining plea for charity. After complying, he entered into an earnest conversation with the "mean white," and learnt, as he told a friend, much curious information as to the ways of the class of which he would otherwise have been ignorant.‡ In his morning walks he used often to stop and chat with the Municipal sweepers, questioning them as to their caste and social customs. On one occasion he engaged in a discussion with a palki-bearer whose acuteness had often attracted his attention. So high rose the tide of argument that the time slipped by and the cook's summons to supper was disregarded. A friend who had been invited to spend the evening with him was in high dudgeon at the delay, and received his excuses with bad grace. His servants were treated as humble friends; and their comfort deemed of higher importance than his own. Thus he never had a *chiragh* burning in his room at night, for trimming and replenishing with oil would have needed constant attention. When a servant had retired to rest, he was never disturbed on any pretext. Mookerjee would, on such occasions, attend to the *hookahs* himself and bring anything needed for the comfort of guests with his own hands. His regard for the interests of friends knew no bounds. His time, brains and money were equally at their call. So difficult did he find it to say "no," that he often escaped importunity by concealing himself. This prodigality in well-doing seriously crippled his resources, and prevented his making anything like the provision for his family which has been effected by journalists without a tithe of his mental gifts, but also without a tithe of his milk of human kindness. Towards the close of his life, Mookerjee was often tormented by doubts as to whether he had not shown an excessive degree of altruism. On one occasion, when hard pressed by the necessity of providing for a daughter's marriage expenses, he bethought him of a friend, who had long owed him a considerable sum and while hinting at the necessity of repayment, he remarked that he had at last found out that a man's best ally was the "almighty dollar." It was a high-minded contempt for sordid questions of profit that gave him that sturdy independence, perhaps, his noble trait. He was as incorruptible, as Andrew Marvell, or Carlyle's "seagreen" Robespierre. Rank as well as wealth might have been his; and the first was repeatedly pressed on him. He spurned both: preferring, as did an Irish member of Parliament of the last century, "to stand well with himself."* A Latin poet has given us a never failing recipe for gaining the regard of others,---"Love that you may be loved" Mookerjee's unselfishness met with a rich reward; for no modern man of letters ever had a wider circle of devoted friends than he. He was the centre of a group of admiring youths, attracted to him quite as much by his transparent warmth of heart as by the rich stores of learning and observation which he poured forth to a congenial audience. Nor was his charity confined to his own species. Unmeasured were his denunciations of that passive cruelty which suffers our worn-out drudges to die of slow starvation. When in his daily walks he met a wretched bullock with salient ribs, rough-coat and lack lustre eye telling of desertion and friendlessness, he always sent it to the Sodpur Panjrapol. Like Doctor Johnson, of whose portrait as graved deeply by Boswell he reminded one, he was an ardent admirer of "the harmless, necessary cat." His feline pets† were often a dozen or more in number; and each had its recognised place in his sanctum. The quarrels and jealousies of a specially privileged dog and monkey were subjects of infinite amusement for his friends during his banishment to Eastern Bengal. When they were *per force* left behind at Narainganj on his return-journey to Calcutta, he presented the boatman, who undertook to convey them back to Dacca, with a warm overcoat as an inducement to show them every consideration.

Mookerjee's goodness of heart was largely the result of the preponderance of the emotional in his nature. The same characteristic was evinced in his intense appreciation of poetry. His mind was a storehouse of verbal melody and he was never so happy as when drinking in inspiration from his favourite bards. Byron was the chief. The wealth of imagery, the burning emotions, the unconquerable love of liberty which find in his stanzas their fittest expression, fascinated my subject. During his stay in Tippera he used to sit up half the night absorbed in "Childe Harold." Once he was moved so deeply by the beauty of the word-painting as to wake up his friend Babu Kumad Nath Banerji and thunder forth the fourth canto, beginning -

> I stood in Venice on the Bridge of Sighs;
> A palace and a prison on each hand.
> I saw from out the waves her structures rise,
> As from the stroke of an enchanter's wand:

The greatest of French novelists, Honoré de Bálzac, has said that a craving for posthumous fame is the passion of great spirits,

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*His Majesty publicly declared at the outset of his reign that he "gloried in the name of Briton."

† Sir F. Mouat, once Inspector-General of Jails, whose experience had been mostly of the residuum, told the London Statistical Society in 1867 that "He was one of those who considered that, in the matter of truth and honesty, the Bengalis were neither better nor worse than many nations boasting of a higher civilization and a purer faith; and that they in no degree merited the wholesale condemnation with which they were generally visited by those who wrote and talked much but really knew very little of them."

‡ I was once told a story of failure in a similar quest by a great painter. He was commanded to dine and sleep at Windsor Castle, and entered the royal abode valet less and carrying his own carpet bag. Shown into his bedroom, he knelt down to unpack his belongings, leaving the door open. While thus engaged, he was accosted by a flunkey, gorgeous in red and gold, who "supposed he was that painter-chap's man," and invited to "come down to the servant's hall, where he would be put up to the ways of the place." He gladly assented, when who should pass but his friend the Marchioness of Ely? "Why, my dear Sir E---," she said, "I had no idea we were to have you so soon!" While conversing with her ladyship he glanced at poor "Jeames," and could not avoid laughing at his open-mouthed distress. After she had sailed on, he received next the abject apologies, which he accepted with great *bonhomie*, and reminded his interlocutor of his promise to "put him up to the ways of the place." "Oh no, Sir," was the reply, "I could not think of doing so."

* This was Richard Lovel Edgeworth of Edgeworthstown, father of the well known novelist. When the union of England and Ireland was being prepared for, he was approached by one of Lord Castlereagh's spies in view of securing his vote and interest for the ministerial side. An immense sum of money was offered as a bribe for the betrayal of his country. He refused it, though in sore straits, preferring, as he said, to stand well with himself, *i. e.*, to keep his own self-respect.

† "My dear Hem Chunder," he writes on the 20th Dec. 1887, ---"Poor Kalay Khan, my grand Bengal Tommy, is dead, I don't know why or how. Could you come and help me to find out by dissection? He was in splendid condition yesterday; but he did not enter appearance at the Cat's dinner early this morning; nor later, at 2 A.M., when I had my own meal, did he bear me company as usual. At daybreak he was found dead in the yard. I see no blood or other marks of violence on his poor body. You may remember Kalay Khan, a fine black cat, who throve so gloriously. He was, indeed, a grand specimen of the native production, and would be worth stuffing for a museum. I am sorry for the poor creature, whom I loved the more in order to make up for the harshness of others, who despised him because he was black; and they said he was ugly- which last was far from being the case---and persecuted him because he was not as wise as we are."

just as that for comfort or affluence is the passion of mediocrities. The man of genius who for his sins embraces the calling of journalist is debarred from gratifying the "last infirmity of noble minds." His works are written on sand. They deal with ephemeral topics; they are meant for cursory perusal and they are clean forgotten before the broadsheets which give them to the world are dry. The English custom of anonymity is to blame for this absence of a powerful educer of all that is best in a man: and there are those who think that this drawback outweighs its admitted advantages. A youth who adopts this ungrateful profession must accept the inevitable, and will be fortunate if, by the time he is a grey-headed drudge, his fame is known to the brethren of the quill and midnight oil. The great actor has a more enviable lot. His triumphs are equally evanescent: but then he is sustained by the magnetism of applause, spurred to excel himself by the sympathy of his audience: while the traditions of his feats long survive him. Mookerjee was essentially a journalist; and the fact places his biographer at some disadvantage. For the average gentle reader---like Napoleon when the name of a candidate for employ was submitted to him---asks "what has he done?" It is necessary that I should gratify this natural curiosity by furnishing extracts from his works; and from their very nature they have long since faded from recollection. The piety of his kinsman, Babu Ram Das Mookerjee, has placed us in possession of a large number of articles written by my subject. They are full of his own subtle humour: and the quaint antithesis and apposite quotation in which he delighted are illustrated in perfection. I can hardly do better than select two passages which are eminently characteristic of his personality and style.

My first extract is one of the many pieces of fine rhetoric, which are to be found in the famous "Baroda Number" of "*Mookerjee's Magazine*"

"With all our hearty admiration of the great ability, application, zeal, and independence of Serjeant Ballantine, we must confess to a feeling of disappointment at the defence. It looks like being wise after the event---it would be ungenerous to make the counsel responsible for what may be, after all, an accident---what is more properly, fate; but the remark holds good irrespective of the actual result. Serjeant Ballantine could not, any more than the greatest advocate that ever pleaded, effect the impossible. But even with Mulhar Rao unanimously acquitted by the Commissioners, the address of the counsel would have been poor for any noble principles, any weighty appeals, any fund of erudition which future advocates of imprisoned princehood, or injured innocence generally might draw from it. That address stands on record a straightforward lucid statement, a most exhaustive, uncompromising analysis of the evidence, most damaging to the prosecution. There the eulogist must stop. It is a roomy, substantial structure, conceived with ability, judiciously erected, economically, of good materials, convenient, and not unsuitable for the purpose;---not a noble monument of art; massive and majestic, worthy of the dignity of the occasion, and lending it dignity, capable of resisting the ravages of sun and weather, an example for all time. It is neither a brilliant argument, nor a great appeal. This is no disparagement, for it is only saying that the address falls much below perfection. It is not given to many men to attain the highest species of advocacy, and the learned Serjeant was wise in not travelling from the beaten path in which he has earned his laurels into ground in which his footing might be doubtful. He did full justice to his powers and to his splendid fee."

My next extract shows Mookerjee to have been free from the prevailing vice of overvaluing our age:---

"Modern enlightenment and improvements disqualify us from realizing the difficulties, and consequently lead us to undervalue the triumphs of former times. When almost every unsuccessful Entrance examinee talks of going to Europe to become a barrister, we wonder that our grandfathers made so much of Ram Mohan Roy's or Dwarkanath Tagore's visit to England. When every dancing girl in Lucknow or Delhi, in a dull season, purposes to go down to Bengal to ply her profession, we are unable to realize the enterprise of the men of Upper India who, 40 or 50 years ago made the Grand Tour to Calcutta. As yet geography was not taught either in vernacular or English out of Calcutta, Bombay, and Madras. Travelling was cultivated neither as a pleasure nor as an accomplishment. Nay, it was understood only as a pilgrimage or a penalty. Let us remember that in those days there were not only no railways but no conveniences for communication at all; that where we have the electric telegraph mutually connecting all parts of the empire, and connecting them with all civilized parts of the globe, there was an uncertain, costly, and tedious post for transmission of letters; that the steam passage was in embryo in the brain or a new experiment; that ice, then the luxury of European merchant-princes and the highest officials, was still made in the fields about the present railway station at Hooghly; that the roads were bad and dangerous; that people from Mymensing and Commilla going to Dacca hardly expected to return home; that about 50 per cent. of the Bengal pilgrims to Benares were sure to be robbed or murdered between the Doomoordah and Colgong pirates; that,--- not to talk of Naimisaran or Hurdwar or Pushkar---Baidyanath was more inaccessible than the elder Jalamookhi; that Lucknow was the capital of a Mussalman kingdom whose Botany Bay was Cawnpur; that Calcutta itself was for the most part impassable and a sink of dirt and stinks, disease and death, where crime and violence stalked about unpunished; and we shall be better able to conceive what was involved in the peregrinations of a prince of the blood royal of Oudh. But there is no need for so much historical imagination. There is an instance in point in the later annals of Oudh itself. Some idea may be formed at once of royal degeneracy and helplessness in that classic kingdom and of the troubles of travellers in those days from the fact that on the annexation in 1856 the indignant ex-King resolved to proceed with his whole family to England to lay in person his complaint at the foot of the throne. But the difficulties he experienced in moving down country and the hardships he suffered on the voyage to Calcutta effectually cured him of all idea of venturing out on the wide ocean. Even so late as 20 years back, the respectable citizens of the Oudh metropolis, who were wont to despise the people of other parts of India as comparatively barbarous, used to flock around their friends returned from the service of His Majesty Wazad Ali Shah at Calcutta, listening to the wondrous tale of houses in the water and discussing the possibility of such edifices. In 1862 a well-known musician of Lucknow, who in his youth had been to the Deccan in the service of the celebrated Dewan Chundoo Lal, having promised to accompany us to Calcutta, at the last moment backed out, because, as he said with tears in his eye, it was a deadly journey. We have ourselves known men who remembered the sensation caused in Oudh by the boldness of Nawab Ekbaluddowlah and of Syed Hossein Ali."

---*The National Magazine.* F. H. SKRINE.

THE GOOD SLEEP OF A BAD MAN.

IN a certain prison that we all have heard of, lay a convict upon his narrow iron cot. He was to be hanged the next morning. Yet he lay there covered by a rough blanket, sleeping as quietly and soundly as a tired schoolboy. Occasionally the guard in the passage outside peered between the bars of the cell, only to find his charge breathing deeply and regularly. This man had violated the law prohibiting murder; yet he had not violated the physical laws governing his own body, and Nature rewarded him as if he had been the noblest of his race.

That same night, less than a mile away, a rich man tossed and tumbled upon his luxurious bed. He was a good and useful member of society, yet he could not sleep. And, worse still, this happened to him every night. Sleep—that blessing which the Psalmist says, "God giveth his beloved," was practically a stranger to his man. What ailed him? The tortures of conscience? Want of money? The fear of enemies? Nothing of the sort. Then why didn't he sleep as well as the murderer? You would like to know? Right, let us look into the matter.

"I got no sleep at night; I would lie for hours tossing about. In the morning I was worse tired than when I went to bed."

Thus writes Mrs. Eliza Mathews, of 1, North Road, Burnt Oak, Edgware, near London, under date of September 22nd, 1892 Just two years before this time she lost her health. A foul taste in the mouth, loss of appetite, and great distress after eating were among the first things she complained of. She craved food at times, and fancied she could eat heartily, yet when the very dishes she had asked for were set before her she turned from them as though they were filth from the gutter. Her skin grew sallow, her eyes yellow, and she had a constant pain at her chest, sides, and between her shoulders. Her bowels were constipated and the least exertion set her heart thumping as if it must jump up into her mouth. At such times it was as much as ever that she could get her breath She got so thin and weak she was no good for work. She couldn't walk out doors without stopping to rest every few rods almost.

The doctor did what he could for her, all any doctor could do. At first he said he thought her illness was owing to the smell of the farmyard. This looked possible Even the smell of violets has made strong men turn pale and faint dead away. Yet the doctor was wrong. If he had been right, she would have got better when the family left the farm at Bentley Priory and went to live at Burnt Oak. But she was not improved by the change of air; she grew worse and worse.

"In May, 1887," says Mrs. Mathews "I went over to Chelmsford to visit my aunt, Mrs. Troughton. She told me of the good Mother Seigel's Curative Syrup had done her when she had indigestion and dyspepsia. She bought me a bottle, and I began taking it. After a few doses I felt relief. I kept on taking it, and *in two months I was strong and well as ever.* My husband and friends were astonished, yet I assured them that Seigel's Syrup had done it. Yours truly, (Signed) ELIZA MATHEWS."

The point is plain enough. The convict slept soundly because he was a healthy man, although he was a wicked one. Our rich friend rolled about all night because his nerves were unstrung by the state of his stomach. Our correspondent was prostrated by the same thing—indigestion and dyspepsia. The remedy named cured her because it has that power. The reason remains a secret with the roots and herbs from which it is made. Yet so long as it drives away disease and gives us back our health and strength, who cares for its mystery? Results, not arguments, are what we all want.

"Burnt Oak House, Edgware, September, 22nd, 1892. I have known Mrs. Mathews for some seven years, and remember her long and lingering illness. She informs me that Mother Seigel's Curative Syrup cured her, after medical and other means failed. Mrs. Mathews is a lady of respectability, and her word can be implicitly relied upon. You can use this statement in any way you may think proper. Yours truly, (Signed) T. H. HOUSE, Grocer and General Provision Dealer, Burnt Oak Stores, Edgware."

MILITARY SECRETARY'S OFFICE.

NOTIFICATION.

Calcutta, the 8th February, 1895

No. 3648-I.—His Excellency the Grand Master of the Most Exalted Order of the Star of India and the Most Eminent Order of the Indian Empire will hold an Investiture of both Orders in the Government House grounds on Thursday, the 7th March, 1895, at 9-30 P.M.

Admission to Government House on the occasion will be by tickets only.

All persons desirous of attending, except members of the above-mentioned Orders and members of the Consular body who will be invited by the Foreign Department, are requested to apply for tickets to the undersigned not later than the 25th February, 1895, *after which date no applications will be received.* Tickets will be issued on or after the 1st March, 1895.

By Command,
A. DURAND,
Lieutenant-Colonel,
Military Secretary to the Viceroy.

MILITARY SECRETARY'S OFFICE.

NOTIFICATION.

Calcutta, the 12th February, 1895.

No. 3674-I.—In continuation of this office Notification No. 3648-I., dated the 8th February, 1895, it is hereby notified that, on the occasion of the Investitures of the Most Exalted Order of the Star of India and of the Most Eminent Order of the Indian Empire, to be held in the Government House grounds on Thursday, the 7th March, 1895, at 9 30 P.M, those entitled to wear uniform will appear in *Full Dress*, and those not entitled to wear uniform will appear in *Evening Dress.*

Those having the private entrée are requested to enter the Government House grounds by the south-west gate, and alight opposite the private entrance in front of the gun. Their carriages will be passed out by the south gate.

Those not having the private entrée are requested to enter by the north-east gate, and set down before reaching the grand stairs.

The gates of Government House will be closed at 9-15 P.M., after which no carriages will be allowed into the Government House compound till the ceremony is over.

By Command,
A DURAND,
Lieutenant-Colonel,
Military Secretary to the Viceroy

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A Sanskrit Pandit for the Hutwah Sanskrit School who must be a passed Acharya in Byakaran Sahitya and Dharma Shastra

Preference will be given to a Sarjoopari Brahman.

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PREVENTION OF SMALL-POX.

HEADS of families in which a case of small-pox appears are strongly recommended to see, *without delay*, to the vaccination of every member of the household who has not previously had the disease.

All residents on the infected premises who are above seven years of age and who have been vaccinated in infancy and all children below that age who do not bear good vaccination marks should be re-vaccinated.

This, if done properly and in time, will undoubtedly protect from the disease.

Vaccination or re-vaccination is performed free of charge at the following public vaccination stations —

Vaccine Station.	Section & Wards.	Days of Vaccination.	Hours.
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1 Chitpore Dispensary ...	A & B	M. W & F.	7 to 9 A.M.
2 Mayo Hospital	E & G	T. & Sat.	
3 39 Beadon St.	C,D & F	M W. & F.	
4 Medical College Hospital	H & I	T. Th. & Sat.	
5 Municipal Office ...	J,K,L,M	M. W & F.	
6 59 Ripon Street Dispensary	N,O,P,Q	T. Th. & Sat.	
7 Hastings Municipal Office	R	M. & F.	
Amalgamated Suburbs.	Ward		7 to 10 A.M.
8 Entally Municipal Office	19	M. W. & F.	
9 Bhowanipore Municipal Office ...	22		
10 Alipore Municipal Office	23		
11 Bamapooker Municipal Office ..	20	T. Th. & Sat	
12 Bullygunge Municipal Office ...	21		
13 Kidderpore Municipal Office ...	24		
14 Watgunge Municipal Office ...	25		

Persons desirous of having vaccination or re-vaccination performed in their own houses will have to apply to the vaccine station of their respective wards (on the working days and hours of such station), or to the Superintendent of Vaccination, Municipal Office, or to the Deputy Superintendent of Vaccination, No 39 Beadon Street, one day previously, and to pay a fee of 4 annas for each vaccination for which they will obtain a printed receipt and the conveyance, &c, charges for the lymph child not exceeding Rs 2.

Parties wishing to be vaccinated from the calf at their own houses will have to pay conveyance charge for the calf in addition to the fees (4 annas per head)

W J. SIMPSON, M D,
Health Officer.

2nd January, 1895.

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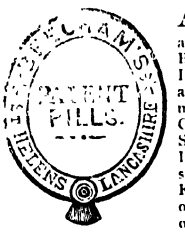

ARE universally admitted to be worth a Guinea a box, for Bilious and Nervous Disorders, such as wind and Pain in the Stomach, Sick, Headache, Giddiness, Fulness, Swelling after Meals, Dizziness and Drowsiness, Cold Chills, Flushings of Heat, Loss of Appetite, Shortness of Breath, Costiveness, Scurvy, and Blotches on the Skin, Disturbed Sleep, Frightful Dreams and all Nervous and Trembling Sensation, &c. The first dose will give relief in twenty minutes.

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WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

VOL. XIV. CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, MARCH 9, 1895. WHOLE NO. 665.

CONTEMPORARY POETRY.

THE WESTERN EMIGRANT.

BY MRS. L. H. SIGOURNEY, OF HARTFORD, CONN

AMID those forest shades that proudly reared
Their unshorn beauty toward the favouring skies,
An axe rang sharply. There, with vigorous arm
Wrought a bold emigrant, while by his side
His little son with question and response
Beguiled the toil.

"Boy, thou hast never seen
...h glorious trees, and when their giant trunks
Fall, how the firm earth groans. Remember'st thou
The mighty river on whose breast we sailed
So many days on toward the setting sun?
Compared to that, our own Connecticut
Is but a creeping stream."

"Father, the brook
That by our door went singing, when I launched
My tiny boat with all the sportive boys,
When school was o'er, is dearer far to me
Than all these deep broad waters. To my eye
They are as strangers. And those little trees
My mother planted in the garden bound
Of our *first home*, from whence the fragrant peach
Fell in its ripening gold, were fairer sure
Than this dark forest shutting out the day."

"What, ho! my little girl,"—and with light steps
A fatty creature hasted toward her sire,
And setting down the basket that contained
The noon's repast, looked upward to his face
With sweet, confiding smile.

"See, dearest, see
Yon bright-winged parroquet, and hear the song
Of the gay red-bird echoing through the trees
Making rich music. Did'st thou ever hear
In far New England such a mellow tone?"

"I had a robin that did take the crumbs
Each night and morning, and his chirping voice
Did make me joyful, as I went to tend
My snow-drops. I was always laughing there,
In that *first home*. I should be happier now,
Methinks, if I could find among these dells
The same fresh violets."

Slow night drew on,
And round the rude hut of the Emigrant,
The wrathful spirit of the autumn storm
Spake bitter things. His wearied children slept,
And he, with head declined, sat listening long
To the swoln waters of the Illinois,
Dashing against their shores. Starting, he spake—

"Wife!—did I see thee brush away a tear?—
Say, was it so?—Thy heart was with the halls
Of thy nativity. Their sparkling lights,
Carpets and sofas, and admiring guests,
Befit thee better than these rugged walls
Of shapeless logs, and this lone hermit-home."

—"No—no!—All was so still around, methought,
Upon my ear that echoed hymn did steal
Which 'mid the church where erst we paid our vows
So tuneful pealed. But tenderly thy voice
Dissolved the illusion."—and the gentle smile
Lighting her brow,—the fond caress that soothed
Her waking infant, reassured his soul
That wheresoe'er the pure affections dwell
And strike a healthful root is happiness.

—Placid and grateful, to his rest he sank,—
But dreams, those wild magicians, which do play
Such pranks when reason slumbers, tireless wrought
Their will with him. Up rose the busy mart
Of his own native city,—roof and spire
All glittering bright, in Fancy's frost-work ray.
Forth came remembered forms—with curving neck
The steed his boyhood nurtured proudly neighed—
The favourite dog, exulting round his feet,
Frisked with shrill joyous bark—familiar doors
Flew open—greeting hands with his were linked
In Friendship's grasp—he heard the keen debate
From congregated haunts, where mind with mind
Doth blend and brighten—and till morning—roved
'Mid the loved scenery of his father-land.

DEAFNESS. An essay describing a really genuine Cure for Deafness, Singing in Ears, &c., no matter how severe or long-standing, will be sent post free.—Artificial Ear-drums and similar appliances entirely superseded. Address THOMAS KEMPE, VICTORIA CHAMBERS, 19, SOUTHAMPTON BUILDINGS, HOLBORN, LONDON.

WEEKLYANA.

THIS week, the mail was delivered at Calcutta on Monday, or two days in advance.

***

ON account of the installation, as the municipal advertisement in another column says, of new Pumping Machinery at Tullah Pumping Station, occasioning alterations to the mains, next week, the citizens of Calcutta must be prepared for restricted supply of water. From next Tuesday to Thursday, the pressure will be greatly reduced.

***

THERE is no abatement of Small-pox. On the contrary, it is on the

Subscribers in the country are requested to remit by postal money orders, if possible, as the safest and most convenient medium, particularly as it ensures acknowledgment through the Department. No other receipt will be given, any other being unnecessary and likely to cause confusion.

increase. The deaths are four times as great as in December. Unless the heavens take pity and pour down rain, the disease is expected to continue to the end of April. A fearful prospect!

∴

THE other day the Insolvent Court room was, by order of the Commissioner, fumigated because a man who was recovering from an attack of smallpox was present in answer to the summons of the Court. This week, the Small Cause Court ordered the release of the furniture attached in a house where there was a case of that disease. The peons in charge were also ordered to be vaccinated.

***

FROM men to cows. There is a report that the disease has broken out among milch cows in various wards of the city. The order of the Health Officer has gone forth that affected animals are to be segregated and the owners are not to sell their milk. The carrying out of the order, whether legal or not, will probably raise the price of milk without preventing any evil.

∴

THE Hon'ble C. A. Wilkins having obtained furlough for eight months from the 20th March, Mr. T. D. Beighton, District and Sessions Judge, 24-Parganas, acts as Superintendent and Remembrancer of Legal Affairs, Mr. J. Pratt, District and Sessions Judge, Midnapore, acting in the same capacity in the 24 Parganas.

∴

A SUIT for partition with usual prayers for reliefs, instituted in the High Court, Original Side, was thrown out for want of jurisdiction. The same suit was next filed at Hooghly, the parties and prayers being the same. The Subordinate Judge subpœnaed the attorney for the plaintiff in the suit in the High Court for certain papers and documents deposited with him. The attorney claiming a lien on them, refused to produce them unless the costs due to him were paid. The Sub Judge overruled the objection on the ground that the firm had changed with the death of one of the partners who had acted as attorney, and there was dissolution of partnership. There was an appeal from this order, and a rule issued by the High Court in its revisional jurisdiction, which rule was discharged on technical grounds. Next a plaint was filed, by the living attorney and the executor of the deceased partner, in the Original Side of the High Court for balance of costs due, for declaration of the attorney's lien, for injunction against the documents being used as evidence in the suit at Hooghly, or otherwise intermeddling with the same, for an order setting aside, if necessary, the order of the Sub-Judge directing the production of the documents and, of course, for other reliefs. Pending the disposal of the suit, an order was, on a rule granted, made restraining the defendants from using the papers and documents without payment of the plaintiff's claim. The suit has now been decided by Mr. Justice Sale who has decreed the attorney's claim with costs, has declared that the attorney had a valid and subsisting lien on the papers placed in his hands, and that the defendants were not entitled to use the papers or in any intermeddle therewith, except on payment of the balance of costs due to the attorney.

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IN the reference by the Sessions Judge of the 24 Pergunnahs disagreeing with the acquittal by the Jury of the head clerk—Sishebhusan Chatterjee—of the Alipore Post Office, charged with criminal breach of trust in respect of Rs. 4,900, Mr. Justice Norris, who with Mr. Justice Beverley formed the Criminal Bench, addressing Mr. Kilby who appeared in support of the reference, said:—

"They have been looking through the books quietly and ferreting out things; and in this examination, which partakes of the nature of a cross examination, they seek in this way to induce the accused to commit himself. It is a perfectly scandalous and disgraceful business. God bless my soul! this is not a preliminary statement with a view to issuing process against the treasurer. This is a species of cross examination with a view to getting him to fix the guilt upon himself. I do not wonder that the jury did not pay any attention to this deposition.

Mr. Kilby. On the other hand, they wanted to know whether this man was telling the truth against the treasurer.

Norris, J.—That is not the way to ascertain that fact, by cross examining him before the magistrate. One hears a great deal about executive tyranny. This is a case of judicial tyranny more or less.

Mr. Kilby.—Under the rulings that is evidence.

Norris, J.—I cannot say whether that is evidence or not, but it is an unjust, disgraceful proceeding. If the result or the inquiries between the date of the man's examination, and the date of the resumption of that so-called examination, was such as to induce the belief that he was a *particeps criminis*, it was the duty of the prosecution to have told him, 'We have reason to believe that you are an accomplice, and we shall charge you;' and he should have been warned that anything he said would be used against him. But you have no right to try him in this way. You ought not to put people in the dock by trapping them into making incriminatory statements."

Ultimately, the Judges were of opinion that at the highest it was a case of suspicion, and as such the accused was entitled to the benefit of the doubt. They accordingly upheld the verdict of the jury as a right and proper one, and acquitted and discharged the accused.

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HERE is a treatment of sprained ankles, turned ankles, twisted wrists, &c:—

"It is generally within an hour after the accident that you are called in to see the case. The patient is suffering very severely, and wanting very much to know if 'anything is broken.' After examining for fracture, order the part to be bathed in extremely hot water, every hour or two, for a period of fifteen minutes at a time. Have the water just as hot as the patient can bear it, and apply with a sponge or cloth, rather than allow the ankle to lie in the water. Then dry and let the part rest quietly, wrapped in flannels, when an application of hamamelis or veratrum and hamamelis may be made.

Before retiring apply a flannel bandage tightly around the swollen part, only being careful that the circulation is not cut off.

It is surprising how the hot applications relieve the pain and produce absorption, and how the bandage, by pressure, prevents swelling and inflammations."—*Scientific American.*

If there is no fracture, the time-honoured Indian treatment by bandage and plaster of warm lime and turmeric, has been known to be highly efficacious.

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THE following about beards is from the *British Medical Journal*:—

"It is to be feared that too many men deprive themselves of what Shakespeare calls 'valour's excrement,' without counting the possible cost. Whether the beard be an ornament to the masculine countenance we must leave the ladies to decide; it certainly has its uses in hiding a weak chin, and in some cases it seems to be cultivated as a vicarious compensation for a hairless scalp. It is not, however, in its cosmetic so much as in its hygienic aspects that the blessedness of the beard—in which term we include the whole of the harvest usually claimed by the razor—is most apparent. That it is a safeguard to the throat is generally admitted, and writers of authority have insisted on its value as a protection against toothache and facial neuralgia. This is a goodly sum of advantages to the credit of the beard. Dr. Chabbert, of Toulouse, has however yet more to say in its favour. According to this practitioner the beard seems to be a very efficient defence against that form of facial paralysis which is caused by cold. This affection is far more common in women than in men, though the latter are, of course, much more exposed to the cause which produces it. When facial paralysis *a frigore* does occur in men, they are almost invariably individuals to whom Nature has been step-motherly in the matter of beard, or who have wantonly thrown away the protective covering with which she had clothed their faces. Dr. Chabbert cites the experience of several physicians, in addition to his own, in support of his opinion. Professor André, of Toulouse, has seen several cases of the affection in question in women, but not one in man; he has heard of one, indeed, which would appear to be an excellent example of the exception which proves the rule, for the patient was a 'lyric artist,' with the *faccia di musica* so distasteful to Lord Byron. Professor Pitres, of Bordeaux, has seen twelve cases in women and only two in men; both the latter shaved, though as one of them underwent that operation only twice a week his case perhaps does not count for much unless it be held that his face was more vulnerable after these periodical denudations. Similar observations are quoted from Dr. Olivier of Toulouse, and Dr. Sudre, of Carmaux. These facts, though hardly sufficient to found an induction on, seem at least to establish a *primâ facie* case for the utility of the beard against facial paralysis of the kind referred to. In these days when man's traditional privileges are one by one being invaded by the 'new woman,' he may perhaps be forgiven for making the most of such advantages as may be considered exclusively his own."

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DR. Mahendralal Sircar's experiences regarding beards are different. We read in the last (January) number of the *Calcutta Journal of Medicine*:

"We cannot say much in favour of the beard affording protection to the teeth, the throat, or the face. We were persuaded by some friends to cultivate the beard for the purpose of getting rid of our teeth-troubles which have become very frequent of late; but notwithstanding that the beard is now pretty respectable, the teeth-troubles have not been any the less. This is the experience also of many who have never been under the operation of the barber. As for facial paralysis we have never yet met with a case in females, though it is very frequent in our own sex. The beard is not in every instance an ornament; though we must admit it may cover a deal of ugliness. It is, however, very often a nuisance, and leads to much uncleanliness."

It may not be without value to mention that the Rishis of ancient India, who are credited with a superior knowledge of personal hygiene, and whose freedom from disease was proverbial, never shaved. The practice of not submitting to the operation of the razor for a definite period, adopted as a vow in honour of this or that deity of the Hindu pantheon by men afflicted with pulmonary and other diseases, is still general in India. Whether it is due to faith or the beard agrowing may not be capable of satisfactory solution, but the fact cannot be doubted that cures are sometimes effected in such individuals. The obser-

vance of the vow has descended from ancient times. In Catholic Christendom such a vow was at one time general among the sick. It should be mentioned that Charaka prescribes shaves, though certain days and hours are stated as unfit for submitting to them. Dr. Sircar's view of beards leading to much uncleanliness seems to derive support from the ordinances of Charaka.

NOTES & LEADERETTES,

OUR OWN NEWS,

&

THE WEEK'S TELEGRAMS IN BRIEF, WITH OCCASIONAL COMMENTS.

NEGOTIATIONS relative to the powers and credentials to be conferred upon the Chinese peace envoys are making favourable progress. The proposed Envoys will first meet the Japanese representatives at Simonsaki, who will examine the credentials of the Chinese mission. If found in order the Envoys will be allowed to proceed to Hiroshima, where the negotiations for peace will take place. The *Times* published a telegram from a correspondent at Pekin stating that Li Hung-Chang has started for Japan viâ Tientsin. The Japanese Government has accepted his credentials. The hostilities, however, continue. Newchang has been captured by the Japanese after desperate street fighting lasting thirteen hours. Nineteen hundred Chinese have been killed and five hundred taken prisoners, the Japanese loss being two hundred killed. The remnants of the Chinese army have fled to Yinkow. The Japanese Government has notified to the Powers its intention to occupy the treaty port of Newchang. According to despatches received at Hiroshima, the Chinese Forces numbering thirteen thousand made a desperate attack on Haicheng, but were repulsed by the Japanese after severe fighting. The Japanese loss is stated to have amounted to two hundred and seventy. The Japanese Army in Manchuria is again moving forward driving the Chinese northward. The Chinese warships captured by the Japanese at Wei-hai-wei have arrived at Yokohama. The Japanese have abandoned Shantung, Wei-hai-wei, after destroying all the fortifications. The third and fifth Japanese army divisions have effected a junction near Liaoyang. The third Japanese division has occupied Aushoungcheng unopposed.

A DEBATE took place in the German Reichstag on the naval estimates, the Government strongly insisting upon an increase in the number of cruisers, to enable the Navy fittingly to protect German trade and German subjects, and watch over the growing interests of Germany in various parts of the world, notably in China and Japan. Eventually the cost of four new cruisers was voted by a large majority. In his recent naval lecture at a parliamentary soirée at the New Palace, the Emperor laid special emphasis on the importance of cruisers. The Agricultural Council, comprising representatives from all parts of the Empire, is holding sittings at Berlin under the presidency of the Minister of Agriculture for enquiring into prevailing agricultural depression. Up to the present the Council has only been discussing numerous vague schemes, including State monopoly of grain with State control over imports.

IT is all unpleasant news from Russia. The Czar is suffering from an attack of influenza, accompanied by sore throat. Repeated serious riots have occurred among the students at St. Petersburg, compelling the authorities to call out detachments of Cossacks to disperse the rioters, many of whom have been seriously injured. The disturbances are of a semi-political nature, in favour of the adoption of a more liberal policy by the Czar.

THE American Congress refuses to vote the sum of 4,25,000 dollars offered by the United States Government for the settlement of the Behring Sea arbitration award. Senator Sherman has denounced the refusal as tending altogether to destroy the principle of arbitration. Mr. Gresham, Secretary of State, has expressed his Government's deep regret to Sir J. Pauncefote regarding the delay in discharging the national obligations. The Congress has finally agreed to take part in any monetary conference which may eventually be held. Mr. Ch. F. Crisp, Speaker in the House of Representives, has been selected as one of the United States delegates. Boston and several other cities in the United States are sending relief for the acute distress prevailing in Newfoundland.

ISMAIL Pasha, Ex-Khedive of Egypt, who had been seriously ill for some time, died on the 2nd.

A TRAIN crowded with pilgrims left the rails and plunged down a precipice near Mexico. One hundred passengers were killed outright, and ninety injured.

A LARGE fire broke out at Port-of-Spain, Trinidad, completely destroying the business quarter of the town. The damage is estimated at nearly a million sterling. The conflagration would have proved even more serious had not detachments of British and American Bluejackets been landed to render assistance. Owing to the exertions of the seamen the remainder of the town was saved.

IN the House of Commons, on March 4, Mr. Morley introduced a Bill to amend the Irish Land Act in accordance with the proposals of the recent Committee. The general principle of the Bill is to protect tenants in the ownership of improvements, and reduce the term for the fixing of fair rents. The Bill also contains certain provisions in favour of evicted tenants. It was read a first time without a division. Next day, the Bill to establish boards of conciliation in labour disputes was read a first time. Mr. Chamberlain ridiculed the Bill as being totally inadequate to deal with the settlement of labour disputes.

THE English Naval estimates for the financial year 1895-96 amount to about £19,116,000 or £1,750,000 more than the sum voted in 1894-95. The total number of men wanted in 1895-96 will be 88,900, an increase of 5,500 upon the total of last year. Important new works are to be constructed at Portland, Gibraltar, Dover, Hongkong and Portsmouth. A loan to cover the cost will be necessary. The Army estimates for the financial year 1895-96 amount to £17,881,000 showing a decrease of £200,000 compared with last year. The effective services remain unchanged. Government hope to withdraw a battalion from the Army of Occupation in Egypt during the present year, thus enabling them to complete the garrisons on the South African coaling stations. The system of hiring transports will be fully tested before deciding upon the construction of new vessels to replace troopships. The additional estimates of the English Budget include a sum of £9,500 for the cost of the Opium Commission.

OWING to the epidemic of influenza which is raging, the number of deaths registered in the London districts alone was fourteen hundred above the average of the last ten years. Sir Henry Rawlinson has fallen a victim to the disease. Mr. Fowler, the Secretary of State for India, and Mr. Campbell Bannerman, the Secretary of State for War, are both suffering from it. Mr. Asquith too is confined to his bed.

THE Marquis of Queensberry has been arrested on a charge of libelling Mr. Oscar Wilde. The allegation states that the former left a card at Mr. Wilde's Club inscribed with words implying a horrible charge against Mr. Wilde. The accused has been remanded for a week, and is admitted to bail on a sum of one thousand pounds.

AT a meeting of the East India Association, Sir Lepel Griffin read a paper in which he said the present war in the Far East would immensely affect the future prosperity of India. The solution of the currency difficulty was a most vital matter, and he was of opinion that bimetallism was the only remedy. The recasting of the Indian financial system was essentially necessary. India, Sir Lepel said, will ever remain unsuited for representative Government. He also advocated limiting the liberty of the press in India, and defended the Indian Government's recent frontier policy. Sir Lepel need not be anxious for the liberty of the press in India. It has been considerably curbed since he left India.

AN enthusiastic reception was accorded to Lord Harris on his arrival at his seat at Faversham. He was received at the station by the Mayor

and Aldermen, and a guard-of-honour composed of Volunteers. A torchlight procession with bands of music, escorted him home. In the course of a reply to an address read by the Mayor, Lord Harris said he would never forget the extremely kind farewell of Bombay. Kind the farewell undoubtedly was of those that gave it. Unfortunately the number of those that did not join it was not inconsiderable. The latter, again, took time by the forelock, by quickly collecting all the hostile criticisms in the press on Lord Harris' administration. That goodly volume, of about 250 octavo pages, of diglot letter-press, even the friends and admirers of Lord Harris must admit, is an ugly fact. Bombay, however, has buried her Governor, and he ought to be beyond the reach of both praise and blame.

PROFESSOR Blackie is dead. The loss will be mourned by many as a personal one. His relations towards successive generations of youth that sat at his feet, were always cordial He was never stiff with them, but freely indulged his humour. His independence in the domain of thought was remarkable. Considering the obloquy under which Hume and Voltaire still labour, it required real courage to recommend to young men the study of those two truly great authors. In his excellent volume on self culture, he spoke of their writings as necessary to complete one's education.

THE Chapter on Thursday night passed off satisfactorily. No complaint has reached us. It was held on the grounds where Lord Lansdowne, in 1889, had held his, under electric lamps, the other arrangements being the same. The Hon'ble Mr. James Westland, C S I., and the Hon'ble Mr. Frederick William Richards Fryer, C S I, were invested with the Insignia of the Second Class, and the Hon'ble Mr Charles Cecil Stevens, Major-General Alexander Robert Badcock, C B., and Stephen Jacob, Esq, were decorated with the Badge of the Third Class, of the Most Exalted Order of the Star of India Raja Sudhal Deo, of Bamra, C.I.E., and Colonel Henry Ravenshaw Thuillier, C I E, were also invested with the Insignia of the Second Class, and Rai Bahadoor Durgagati Banerji and Adam Gillies Tyler, Esq, decorated with the Badge of the Third Class, of the Most Eminent Order of the Indian Empire. Besides the Grand Master of the two Orders, Lord Elgin, who presided, there attended 49 Members, namely, one G C I E, three K C.S.I.'s., nine K C.I.E.'s, thirteen C S I.'s, and twenty-three C I E.'s.

THE Hon'ble Sir Antony Patrick MacDonnell, K C S I, has been selected as the next Lieutenant Governor of the North Western Provinces and Chief Commissioner of Oudh His antecedents fit him for the post.

THE Evening Party at 6, Park Street, last Saturday, in honour of the Hon'ble Mr. P M Mehta, was largely attended And no wonder, for Mr. and Mrs Bonnerjee are splendid hosts They remembered all their friends and were attentive to each of them It was arranged on that occasion to give a general entertainment to M. Mehta.

THERE is a good deal of sensation at Hyderabad over the Mecca lecture delivered by Dr. Hart in the palace gardens, a telegraphic account of which has already appeared in this journal Interested parties are publishing pamphlets saying that Dr Hart's proposal has the hearty support of all the Mahomedans and the Hyderabad Durbar. This to say the least is a bold statement. It is wide off the fact. The meeting instead of carrying any resolution by acclamation loudly declared Dr. Hart's proposal *namanzoor*. The *Civil and Military Gazette* is about the only Anglo-Indian paper which has published a true report. The account in the other papers represents the feelings of those who, impelled by laudable motives, were heedless enough to denounce the Zemzem well. The ill feeling roused by that ill-judged action is so great that Dr. Hart would be advised well to leave the sacred spring alone. Already, the Nizam's Government is obliged to declare officially that it does not support the imaginary resolutions telegraphed to the various papers.

The Indian Association for the Cultivation of Science.

210, Bow Bazar Street, Calcutta

(Session 1894-95)

Practical Class in Chemistry under Babu Rajendra Chandra Datta, F C S., On Wednesday, the 13th Inst, at 4-15 P M, *Subject* Inorganic Acids. On Thursday, the 14th Inst, at 4-15 P M, *Subject*. Inorganic Acids (continued) On Friday, the 15th Inst, at 4-15 P M, *Subject*. Inorganic Acids (concluded). On Saturday, the 16th Inst, at 4-15 P M, *Subject*: Organic Acids

Lecture by Babu Syamadas Mukherjee, M A, on Thursday, the 14th Inst, at 4 P. M., *Subject* Invariant Theory of Conics.

Admission Fee, Rs. 4 for Physics, and Rs 4 for Chemistry; Rs. 6 for both Physics and Chemistry, Rs 4 for Physiology; Rs. 4 for General Biology; Rs. 6 for complete course of Physiology and Biology. The charge for a single lecture is 2 Annas.

MAHENDRA LAL SIRCAR, M D,

March 9, 1895. *Honorary Secretary.*

THE municipal elections take place next Saturday. The day will not be observed, as in former years, a holiday, except in the municipal office, but facilities will be given to Government servants to attend the polling booths to record their votes. In the urban area, eighth wards are uncontested. One of the suburban wards shows marked activity. Applications were made to the Chief Magistrate to disqualify many voters and a pair of rival candidates. Mr. Pearson would disqualify none of the candidates and only pronounced a brother of one of them incompetent to vote.

THE tenth annual general meeting of the National Association for supplying female medical aid to the women of India was held yesterday, at the Town Hall. Lord Elgin presided. Sir Antony MacDonnell presented the Report. He summed up the ten years' working thus :—

"An invested capital of 20 lakhs, giving an assured income for the future; an expenditure by Central, Provincial and District Branches of about 10 lakhs of rupees; the construction, largely by private benevolence, of some 70 hospitals erected at a cost of 17½ lakhs of rupees; the employment of qualified female medical practitioners, not to count nurses and midwives working under the Fund, the number now reaching more than 100; the attendance of 241 students preparing in the various colleges and medical schools either for employment under the Association or independent positions; and finally, medical relief afforded to more than three millions of women and children."

The other speakers were Mr. Lal Mohun Ghose and Sir Charles Elliott The President gave a long address and concluded by saying —

"This Association is—as I think one of the speakers just now said —'a gigantic organisation.' It is also an Indian organisation, and therefore its officers must follow the rule which obtains in most Indian organisations of the kind which extend over a considerable part of the country,—and that is they go on tour. Lady Elgin has been on tour, and there is this peculiarity of the Lady President's tours, that they must not clash with the Viceroy's tours, and therefore I know something about them Well, Lady Elgin has been on tour, and has seen a good many Hospitals, as His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor has stated. But in visiting them there is one question which she has always had before her, and to which she has paid particular attention, and that is the provision that was made for the *purda nasheen* women, and the extent to which advantage was taken of that provision. I do not intend on this occasion to enter into any general discussion of that subject. You will find in the Report a passage which is very interesting, and which gives the present opinion of the Central Committee on the matter. All that I desire to say now is that the Lady President's experience, so far as it has gone, is in the direction of that passage of the Report, and that she agrees with the opinion there expressed that there are hopeful symptoms to be found. No doubt, cases occur in which provision has been made, but remains unoccupied There may even be cases in which sufficient accommodation, or proper accommodation, has not been made; but in most cases the provision is there, and is ready to be occupied if the patient apply, and in some cases it is taken advantage of. Her Excellency was very much struck by the arrangements made at Ahmedabad and the full extent to which the wards there were occupied and there was this rather striking circumstance with regard to the patients attending that hospital that they not only came once, but that they returned One woman whom her Excellency found there had entered the Hospital for the third time. Now, in my opinion—and that is the only thing I wish to say on the matter—example is better than precept in a case of this kind; and the best hope we can have of realising what we desire in this matter is that the people of the country should gradually be brought to see that this provision which is made for them is one which they can accept, and can accept to their advantage. It is no use blinking the question. We know perfectly well that there are difficulties in India; but, after all, the difficulty of getting people to attend Hospitals is not confined to India. I have myself fought the fight for Hospitals elsewhere, and I venture to hope that in this matter of the opening out of medical relief, and hospital relief in cases where medical relief at home cannot be adequately provided, that we shall have to persevere in the good principles on which this fund was founded, and I firmly believe that if we persevere we shall ultimately succeed. (Applause.)"

BABOO Jugganath Khunnah, having filed his schedule, compounded with his creditors for one-fourth of their claims, payable within six months of the recision of the order of insolvency. This order was made on the 3rd June, 1893, the insolvency dating the 15th February, 1891. No part of the composition being paid either within or beyond the period fixed, Ram Chand Khettry sued Khunnah for the entire sum of Rs. 25,000. The defendant opposed the suit saying that the plaintiff was bound by the composition deed which reduced his claim to Rs. 6,250 without providing for the entire debt becoming payable on failure to pay the one-fourth within the stipulated time. Khunnah did not contend that the plaintiff had lost all hold on him on the expiration of the six months without payment. Mr. Justice Sale has, however, decided in favour of the plaintiff. His judgment runs as follows :—

"The sole question I have to determine is whether under the circumstances the plaintiff is entitled to recover the full amount of his claim, or whether the defendant's contention is correct that there has been a discharge of the original debt, and that all that the plaintiff is entitled to is the composition of 4 annas which the defendant agreed to pay his creditors. The general law, relative to arrangements between creditors and insolvent debtors, is clearly laid down in *Winslow* on Private Arrangements between Debtors and Creditors, p. 49. 'A debtor who has entered into an arrangement with his creditors must, to entitle him to the benefit of the agreement, show that he has strictly complied with its terms. If a time be fixed within which he is to perform certain acts, he must perform them within the appointed time. . . . but if he fail to perform his agreement within the appointed time. . . . the creditors, or those particular creditors towards whom he has made default will be remitted to their original rights.' No doubt it is open to the parties to make whatever arrangements they may please in respect of debts due from one to the other; and there would be nothing to prevent a creditor from agreeing to accept, in lieu of his original claim, a special promise to pay a certain percentage of that claim, and to give time to the debtor to pay that proportion of the original claim. The question is whether the parties intended the arrangements which the Courts have inferred from deeds of arrangements of the nature to which I have already alluded, or whether, on the other hand, it was intended by the parties that there should be an absolute discharge of the original claim, and that the creditor (the plaintiff in this case) should be confined to the rights that he may have under the defendant's promise to pay a portion only of the original claim. In the first place it is to be observed from the deed of arrangement that the covenant on the part of the defendant is to pay a composition of 4 annas within six months from the date on which he should obtain the withdrawal of his petition; and there is another covenant that the creditors are not to sue the defendant, or take any proceedings against him for recovery of the composition until the expiration of the six months. The latter covenant (it is argued) taken in conjunction with the covenant to pay the composition makes it clear that what was intended was that the plaintiff should accept the promise to pay the 4 annas as an absolute discharge of the original claim. I am not able to accede to the view that that is the correct construction of the deed. It seems to me that it would render meaningless the covenant so far as it is a covenant to pay the composition within six months from the date of withdrawal of the insolvency. The only reasonable construction it seems to me that can be put upon it is that the promise is not a general promise merely to pay the composition, but a promise to pay it within a given period; and I must, therefore, take it that the discharge is intended to be a discharge conditional on the full performance of that covenant. It would be laying far too great stress on the covenant not to take proceedings within the period of six months against the insolvent, to say that the limitation of time within which no proceedings are to be taken, shows that the parties contemplated that after that period what was to be recoverable from the insolvent was to be only the composition. It appears to me that a covenant of that sort is not inconsistent with the construction which I am inclined to put upon this deed of arrangement, and I think it may reasonably be said that all the parties intended by that covenant was to assure to the debtor a period of six months for the purpose of extricating himself from the difficulty (under which, no doubt, he then was) of raising the needed proportion of his debts which his creditors were ready to accept in discharge of their claim. It appears to me that I am fully adopting the principle relating to deeds of arrangement of this character which has been set forth in the case *In re Hatton* (L. R, 7 ch. 726). The result is, there must be a decree in favour of the plaintiff for the full amount claimed, with costs and interest, in the usual way."

Unless there was an attempt by the defendant to defraud the creditor-plaintiff, the judgment seems harsh. The Judge meets the contention that the composition deed did not say in so many words that failure to pay within the period limited would entitle the creditor to claim the full amount—saying that the deed did not distinctly extinguish the original right. Without pretending to speak authoritatively on the construction of the deed which is not before us, the common sense view seems to be, that the creditor had given up his claim to three-fourths and agreed to receive one-fourth in full satisfaction of the entire demand, and agreed not to enforce his compounded claim till after six months. There must therefore be special words to show that non-payment during the period would revive a claim given up. Suppose a part payment had been made within the specified six months, and only a small fraction of the reduced claim remained unpaid. What would have been the claim of the creditor plaintiff? Would it have been Rs. 25,000 minus the payment? Or, would the Judge have decreed the proportion of Rs. 25,000 on the unpaid balance? The Judge seems to have treated the deed as an ordinary contract, and there being failure of payment within time, the document is invalidated. He makes a nice distinction—too nice, perhaps, for the workaday world.

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WE had lately occasion to point out a gap in the law about the protection of estates attached under section 146 of the Code of Criminal Procedure. We showed how certain kinds of property, notably an Indigo factory and a coal mine, require to be managed during the period of attachment in order to protect their value from being deteriorated. The Criminal Courts issuing the order of attachment are powerless to make any provision for their *ad interim* management. It is the Executive Government that must step in and take upon itself the protection of the property. Of course, it would be absurd for the Collector of the district to take upon himself the management of a mine or of an Indigo concern, but unless provision be made for working the mine or the factory, serious loss is certain to occur. It is very unfortunate that the Civilian Secretariats are not strong in the law. To make up the deficiency, there is the Legal Remembrancer, but that official is very rarely a barrister. It is true that the Advocate-General and the Standing Counsel are capable of being consulted, but it happens very frequently that these officials are not referred to, the Secretariat contenting itself with the opinion of the Legal Remembrancer. In the case noticed by us in our issue of the 16th of February last, it was pointed out that the High Court having attached the Seebpore and Kanthee Colliery at Raniganj, the Government of Bengal had, under the existing law, to step in and take charge of the property And how did it protect the Colliery? Operations were at once stopped. The very pumps were not permitted to work and water was allowed to accumulate to the permanent injury of the mines. The parties interested applied to the Bengal Government for permission to at least work the pumps for drawing out the water and protect the mines from inevitable deterioration The reply of the Secretariat has been characteristic. On the strength of very probably the Legal Remembrancer's opinion, the Chief Secretary said that the High Court, which had issued the order of attachment, should be moved "for an order authorising the appointment of a manager." This then is the knowledge of the law which the Secretariat has. It is provoking to find that they who have such large powers should be so ignorant of what the law is of the realm. Notwithstanding that opinion, we venture to state that the High Court, after issuing the order of attachment, has no power to provide for the *ad interim* management of the Colliery The result of the Bengal Government's order has been inevitable damage to the property One of the parties to the dispute had solicited permission to work the pumps for protecting it from damage till final adjudication by the Civil Court. The other side could possibly have no objection to this. Indeed, by objecting, it would only have acted like the false mother of the child of disputed parentage. Whoever might be finally adjudged the proprietor, all parties would certainly like to see the mines duly cared for till the final adjudication. It was clearly the duty of the Bengal Government to see that the application for working the pumps was granted. Instead, it refused the prayer, relying on an opinion that was strangely incorrect. Surely, it is time to see that the Civilian element in the Secretariats is strengthened by the admission of a few lawyers. We have a baker's dozen of Secretaries and Under-Secretaries. Three or four lawyers would certainly be desirable among the body. As long, however, as the Civilian interest is strong, this wholesome reform will not be introduced.

THE Bengal Government pays the following tribute to Mahamahopadhyaya M. C. Nayaratna, in the *Calcutta Gazette*:—

"*The 19th February* 1895.—The retirement of Mahamahopadhyaya Mathes Chandra Nyayaratna, C. I. E., from the Principalship of the Sanskrit College affords the Lieutenant-Governor a suitable opportunity

for placing on record his appreciation of the services rendered by the Pandit, during his long career as a Government officer, alike to Sanskrit learning and to the spread of education. While his general culture in the field of Sanskrit learning is exceptionally wide, his special reputation as a student of Nyaya stands high among the scholars of India and Europe. Since his first appointment as Officiating Principal of the Sanskrit College in 1877, he has steadily devoted himself to the encouragement of the study of Sanskrit in the indigenous *Tols* of the country. The institution of the Sanskrit Title Examination, which has proved so popular and successful a measure, and the substantial rewards more recently offered to *tol-pandits* and their pupils throughout the Province, for proficiency in Sanskrit as tested by examination, owe their origin to his direct initiative. Both these measures have appealed widely to popular sympathies, and have elicited large contributions from private liberality in their support. When he has been consulted upon measures affecting the public weal, the influence of the Pandit has been steadily ranged on the side of order and good government, while his sound and temperate judgment, his uprightness and loyalty, have lent weight to his counsels. The cordial good wishes of the Government of Bengal follow Mahamahopadhyaya Mahes Chandra Nyayaratna in his well-earned retirement."

Nayaratna belongs to an ancient family of Pandits famous for their learning. In his younger days he studied *Smriti* with his father, and *Naya* with his eldest uncle. Coming to Calcutta he completed his study of *Naya* under Professor Joynarayan Tarkapanchanana, and Poetry and Rhetoric under the famous Professor Premchand Tarkavagish. He studied *Vedánta* and *Sánkhya* first under Pandit Jyotish Swarup at Calcutta and then under Visuddhánanda Swámi at Benares. In Rhetoric and Naya, Nayaratna enjoys a solid reputation. The distinction of Mahamahopadhyaya created on the occasion of the Jubilee was of his devising. The title-examinations and the scholarships instituted, are due to his suggestions, as also the system of grant-in-aid to the indigenous schools of Sanskrit learning. His services, therefore, to the cause of Sanskrit scholarship as represented in this country, are substantial and promise to be enduring. As trusted adviser of Government in various matters connected with Hindu society and religion, his rôle must yet continue. His loyalty to British rule, and the readiness with which he placed his time at the disposal of officials, have gained him an influence the like of which no other Pandit has been able to acquire. His strong common sense, however, could not prevent him from swelling the cry of religion in danger on the occasion of the Age of Consent Act. His action in the matter of the Durga Poojah holidays was condemned by all his countrymen, although it must be said that the Chamber of Commerce had sprung a mine upon him by asking his opinion on a strictly religious point. We suppose that if the matter had been fairly put before him he could ever have declared himself against the long vacation. Another complaint against Nayaratna has been that he has induced many of the Pandits of Bengal to accept gifts at houses where no gifts were accepted before. This charge is scarcely fair. If the Pandits themselves had been averse from such gifts, Nayaratna could never have succeeded in conquering their scruples. As an *Adhyaksha* or superintendent of doles to the learned on occasions of marriage and death in the houses of the well-to-do, Nayaratna, it is admitted, has not his equal.

NAYARATNA has been succeeded by Nyalankar Nilmoney Mookerjee as Principal of the Sanskrit College. There were about a dozen applications when it was known that Pandit Mahes Chandra would retire. The choice has fitly fallen on the senior Sanskrit Professor of the Presidency College. We hope the new Principal will be able to fully attend to the requirements of the College itself, which time extra calls on his time did not permit Nayaratna to do as much as he wished. Professor Nayalankar did not lose his head on the occasion of the Age of Consent Bill agitation. He did real service to the cause of reform by offering a correct translation of the unanswerable argument in Hindu law delivered by Pandit Ramnath Tarkaratna, the author of *Vivadarnava Vyavasya*.

The position occupied by the Principal of the Calcutta Sanskrit College is a peculiar one. By virtue of his office, he comes to be regarded as the head of at least the Bengal Pandits. At any rate, he is looked upon by Government as the channel of communication between the Government and the Pandits. A genuine Pandit, therefore,—one, that is, who in consequence of his surroundings from childhood is capable of sympathising with the Pandits as a class,—must always be preferable to a mere scholar possessed of Sanskrit lore. As long as Professor Mahes Chandra is alive, (and we wish him a long life), nobody else can aspire to the headship of the Bengal Pandits. He may be inferior in learning to the giants of Naya and Smriti who lecture in the colleges of Navadwip and Vikrampore, but in tact and discretion, and suavity of manners, and sympathy with the representatives of Sanskrit culture, he is above them all.

REIS & RAYYET.

Saturday, March 9, 1895

THE AMENDMENT OF THE POLICE ACT:

OR

A GLIMPSE INTO DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION.

IN our last article we have said that the game played at Nuddea has been how to practically nullify the orders of the highest Court in the land. That Court, seeing that both the proprietors had admitted the possession of the rayyets, directed that they should be maintained in possession till duly ousted by the law. The case is one of details. But unless those details be mastered, the real bearings of the Police Act empowering the establishment of an additional constabulary over what is called a disturbed area will not be readily understood.

The Magistracy of Nuddea have shown an incapacity the like of which can hardly be seen even in this country. The order of the High Court affirming Nuffer Chandra Pal Chowdhury's possession as against the Chetlangis and directing the maintenance of the 77 rayyets in possession, was dated the 12th of May, 1894. The Chetlangis refrained from taking any further measures for obtaining possession by force or fraud. They have recently instituted a civil suit for partition and khas possession. The rayyets, after the disposal of the motion, confident that no further obstruction would be offered, endeavoured to have what the High Court had decided to be theirs. Their endeavours were successfully opposed by Nuffer Chandra Pal Chowdhury. In every step they took, they encountered the opposition of the executive. How they have, to this day, been kept out of their fields, will appear below.

It will be remembered that proceedings under section 145 had commenced in October 1893. The Deputy Magistrate's order confirming the possession of the Pal Chowdhuries and ignoring that of the rayyets, was made on the 30th January 1894. During the pendency of the case, the Kalai crop had ripened. The rayyets applied that if they could not be permitted, even after giving proper security, to reap the crop, an officer might be appointed to reap it and, after sale, hold the proceeds in deposit, in view of such distribution as the Court might direct upon the termination of the proceedings. The Pal Chowdhuries opposed this application. There were 700 biggahs of land which had been sown. The application of the rayyets, so far as the appointment of an officer was concerned, was granted. After the Kalai had been thus reaped, there remained on the fields wheat, barley, linseed, rye, &c. These were then not ripe. By the time, however, the proceedings were concluded by the Deputy Magistrate confirming the Pal Chowdhuries in possession, these crops had become fit for gathering. Dissatisfied with the Deputy's order, the rayyets, as already said, moved the High Court, but the Pal Chowdhuries, availing themselves of the order of the Deputy in their favour, removed those crops, so that by the time, *viz.*, 12th May, 1894, the High Court set aside the order of the lower Court and directed the rayyets to be maintained in possession, there was nothing on the fields which they could gather. The rayyets had done their best, by applying to the lower Court, for preventing the Pal Chowdhuries

from reaping the crops without offering adequate security. No action, however, was taken on their petition. The Pal Chowdhuries, having removed the crops, sowed Indigo on some of the lands, although the season was rather late. After the disposal of the motion by the High Court, the rayyets applied to the Magistrate for the value of the Kalai that was held in deposit as also for protection in their efforts to cultivate the Bhadui crop. The Pal Chowdhuries opposed both the prayers, especially the last, as some of the lands had been sown by them with Indigo. The Magistrate refused to dispose of the petition in the only way in which it could be disposed of. On the other hand, he made a reference to the High Court as if any portion of the order made by it was really unintelligible, having previously passed an order under section 144 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, prohibiting both parties from approaching the fields. The Pal Chowdhuries had sown Indigo, which continued to grow. The order of attachment, therefore, operated to protect their crop, while it excluded the rayyets from the land. Soon after the High Court disposed of the reference in chambers. The Judges said that their orders were very clear and that there was no necessity of saying anything more to elucidate them. It is no exaggeration to say that the reference was perfectly frivolous. The greenest Deputy Magistrate appointed in the worst days of nepotism could understand the orders of the Superior Court. Clouded as the brains were of the Magistrate, he took those orders as unintelligible. There were, as stated by him in the letter of reference, altogether 77 rayyets. They were all, as he chose to take them, what is called in Nuddea *utbandi* tenants; that is, the maurasidar had the right to shift them from field to field. In their applications to the Deputy Magistrate, they had described themselves as cultivating specific lands for a long course of years. Under the circumstance, the Magistrate had no right to assume that they were all *utbandi* tenants. They were presumably in possession of certain fields which they had cultivated and in which stood their crops at the time the proceedings under section 145 were commenced. The Deputy Magistrate, in his ignorance of the law, had ousted them from their fields. The High Court set aside that order, saying that "admittedly they were in possession of certain lands; they were, therefore, entitled to remain in possession till ousted by the due course of law." Where was the difficulty in finding which piece of land was held by what rayyet? The Magistrate feared that there would be 77 heavy cases to dispose of before he could find the plots which each of them held. He had not a staff under him which he could tell off for the purpose. We do not know how old Mr. Garret is and what is the measure of his experience of the country. We do not know whether he has passed that stage of an Indian Civilian's incubation in which, fired with a laudable zeal to do justice to litigants and refusing to listen to his ministerial officers whom he threatens to fine if they interrupt the proceedings with their suggestions, he insists upon the presence in his court of *chandimandaps* as the most material witnesses of particular transactions, and of *boyels* accused of having devastated the complainants' fields. We will do him the justice to suppose that the difficulty he started was really experienced by him. May we, however, enquire what orders were passed by him on the petitions of the rayyets? After the order of attachment under section 144 preventing both parties from approaching the lands, and after the disposal of the reference by the High Court, did he take any step towards the enquiry that would have enabled him to obey the order of the superior Court? Could not the enquiry be completed in 77 days, giving each day to each rayyet's petition? Could not even a single rayyet be restored to possession? Have not nine months passed away without Mr. Garret's having done anything to put the rayyets in possession? What explanation can he give of his strange indifference to the interests of the poor cultivators? Did he not finally dispose of the petitions by ordering them to be simply filed? As a matter of fact, however, the difficulty started, or actually experienced, was perfectly childish. A Deputy Magistrate of even ordinary intellectual calibre, would have been able to settle the question within at best a week's or even less time. In the petitions the rayyets presented after the disposal of their cases by the High Court, they gave the boundaries of their fields. Their rent-receipts also, granted by the Pal Chowdhuries, had been filed in the proceedings before the Deputy Magistrate Many of them had filed the papers of the rent suits that had been brought against them by the Pal Chowdhuries All these documents could have enabled the Magistrate to settle without much difficulty the question that was pending before him. Apart from all these papers there was the list which a special officer had prepared of the names of the rayyets and particulars of the fields when the Kalai crops had been reaped during the proceedings under section 145 in the Deputy Magistrate's Court. That list would have furnished a safe guide for the determination Another fact which was repeatedly pressed on the Magistrate's attention was totally ignored by him When the Kalai crop was removed, there stood on some of the fields wheat, barley, linseed, rye, &c., which had been, as appears from the proceedings in the High Court, admittedly sown by the rayyets. These were removed by the Pal Chowdhuries after the confirmation of their possession by the Deputy Magistrate and during the pendency of the motion before the High Court. The Indigo sown by the Pal Chowdhuries, after removal of those crops, was sown late in the season. By the time, therefore, the High Court directed the rayyets to be maintained in possession, the Indigo seeds sown a little while ago had just sprouted forth. A mere sight of the fields would have enabled any man to find out the lands that had been in the occupation of the rayyets. It required very little knowledge of botany to distinguish between plants sown in spring and those sown in the previous winter. The evidence, besides, of the stumps of wheat and barley and rye and linseed, would have been conclusive, and as there were no disputes between the rayyets themselves, the identification of their lands could have been completed within a very brief space of time. Unfortunately for the rayyets, the Magistrate chose to show an imbecility that was startling. The principle upon which he admittedly acted was that because it was difficult to ascertain what lands had been in the occupation of the rayyets, therefore no attempt should be made in that direction. We have no mind to dwell on this point further. The incapacity is sickening to contemplate when displayed by the very head of the district executive.

Orders of attachment issued under section 144 do not remain in force for more than two months. The

Magistrate, having passed the order on the 21st of May 1894, made the reference on the 2nd of June following. The High Court disposed of the reference on the 18th of June. The Magistrate, without having made any effort to ascertain the fields from which the rayyets had been ousted, addressed the Government for extending the order of attachment indefinitely. The Divisional Commissioner refused to support the suggestion. There was method in the proceedings, for the order of attachment could not have any injurious effect on the Pal Chowdhuries. Their Indigo continued to grow safely, and when the season came for reaping, they were allowed, by an order made on the 7th of July 1894, to reap their crop by depositing such security as the Magistrate demanded. It is true that the order directed that no fresh crops should be sown by either party, but so far as the Pal Chowdhuries were concerned, even this prohibition was perfectly harmless to them as will appear from the sequel. The Magistrate, seeing that the Commissioner disallowed the indefinite extension of the order of attachment, moved the Government to pass an order on the 21st of November 1894, under section 15 of the Police Act (V of 1861) for quartering an additional Police force on the disturbed area. The cost of such force, it was directed, should be paid by the Pal Chowdhuries, the Chetlangis, and the rayyets, in proportion to their respective means. In levying the costs, however, the Magistrate exempted the Pal Chowdhuries, so that the Chetlangis and the rayyets are the parties who have been called upon to contribute the costs. Equitable as this order has been, a telling commentary on it is furnished by the fact of there being still an Indigo crop on the land. On the 7th of July the Magistrate had directed that neither party should be allowed to sow any fresh crops. Whence then is this crop that is now standing on the fields? The additional Police force quartered on the disturbed area and paid for by the Chetlangis and the rayyets, must have watched the fields with great vigilance. The presence of the Indigo must, therefore, be due to the singular kindness of these fertile churs for the Pal Chowdhuries. The old Hindu proverb which says that the favoured of the King is the favoured of inanimate Nature itself, may thus be seen to have found a very good practical illustration in Nuddea. Strange as it may seem, the Divisional Commissioner has rejected the appeal preferred to him by the rayyets. They had hoped to be heard by a pleader, but it seems that no intimation had reached them of the day that had been fixed for the hearing of their appeal. The price of the Kalai crops deposited with the Magistrate has not been paid to them. They lost their wheat and barley and linseed and rye. They failed to get possession of their lands even after the High Court had directed their restoration. They were unable to sow the Bhadui and the winter crops in succession. They have been called upon to pay for the additional Police Force. Meanwhile, through the excellent arrangements made by the District Magistracy for preserving the peace of the disturbed area, the Indigo cultivation of the Pal Chowdhuries is going on without let or hindrance and without their being called upon to pay a pice for the maintenance of the additional Police Force. The star of the Pal Chowdhuries has, since some time, been on the ascendant. The princely offer of the house of 3 lacs of rupees, rejected by an inconsiderate Commissioner, may now be renewed. The doings of the addititional Police deserve a separate record. We commend the narrative to Sir James Westland and Sir A. P. MacDonnell in especial. The sense of justice displayed by the District Magistracy is almost perfect. When the power already vested by the Police Act is capable of being thus exercised, the Legislature should certainly have paused before enhancing it by the amending Act that has been passed in spite of the emphatic opposition of the whole country. For years the people had been accustomed to a rule of law. An infallible Executive now steps in and in the name of prevention usurps judicial functions without those safeguards, which, in every civilised country, constitute the invariable concomitants of the exercise of those functions. The clock of administration has certainly been put back by half a century.

Letter to the Editor.

DR. SAMBHU CHUNDER MOOKERJEE.

SIR,—The admirable article of Mr. F. H. Skrine on the character of this distinguished journalist is, indeed, a master-piece of word-painting. I endorse every word Mr. Skrine has used in praise of my departed friend.

I hope you will kindly allow me a little space in your journal to add my feeble testimony to the truth of what Mr. Skrine has written as to the moral character of this great man. Dr. Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee's "goodness of heart" was unquestionable. I was first attracted to him by this quality. Having been sent by the late lamented Mr. Robert Knight, in 1880, to have a talk with Dr. Mookerjee about helping Mr. Knight in his famous trial, I was so much struck by his suavity and geneality that, from that time, I sought his company almost every day. I never found him to talk flippantly even for a moment. In the wildest abandon of mirth he would never utter anything unfitted for the ears of even a delicate lady. At nightfall, he used to read to me and other close friends who used to come to his literary *Mujlis*, the choicest of his writings in *Reis and Rayyet*, and explain to me, at my request, difficult passages and allusions to the past history of this country. His conversation was so charming and teemed with such information, that I oftentimes felt as if I was in the company of the best of English literary men. He was uniformly kind and courteous to gentlemen who came to him for literary assistance or advice. It was he who, at my urgent and respectful request, spent several nights in correcting and improving the first chapter of my biography of K. D. Pal. He used to read from Richardson's Selections choicest pieces from Byron; and sometimes he would read to us pieces from Tennyson also. On one occasion he read, with tears in his eyes and great emotion, a piece from the latter. His kindness towards his servants was unexampled. He would disturb them on no account after they had retired for rest. His liberality towards those in distress was, indeed, very great. I frequently saw a Mahomedan woman, who was, I believe, a beauty in her day, come to him, and I doubt not that she received pecuniary help from him. One day, he gave a valuable shawl to a Dacca Pundit who resides now at Calcutta. Mookerjee loved to respect men of learning. He always sought to assist them to the best of his power. He never paraded his gifts to distressed acquaintances and friends.

His hospitality was of a unique character. You read frequently, in inspired paragraphs, that such and such a Maharaja or Zemindar gave an Evening Party in honour of a European lady, or a retiring Viceroy or Lieutenant-Governor, or an eminent official. Mookerjee's hospitality was not of that ostentatious character. One day I was thunderstruck when I saw in the summer month of 1893, a pilgrim Brahman student of Pudocotah, by name Krishna Swami Iyer, partaking of a most sumptuous feast at Mookerjee's

place. The feast was such as is generally given to only friends of influence and wealth. As soon as I went, Dr. Mookerjee asked me to join the pilgrim Brahman. I felt it an honour in doing so.

I have many things more to say about Dr. Mookerjee's unexampled moral character, but, I fear, I am running too much beyond my prescribed limit and, therefore, cut short here.

RAM GOPAL SANYAL.

Taltollah, 4th March, 1895.

MR. FOWLER ON INDIAN FINANCE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "TIMES."

SIR,—Will you give me space in your columns for a few words on Mr. Fowler's speech at the Northbrook Society, as reported in your issue of Feb. 1?

Mr. Fowler deprecates what he terms pessimistic views on Indian finance, on the grounds, first, that the assets of India are only 35,750,000 less than its liabilities; secondly, that in the last fourteen years there have been eleven years of surplus, and only three of deficit, the surplus having amounted to 24,000,000, the deficit to 3,000,000; thirdly, that the credit of India has enabled it recently to convert 95,000,000 of debt from a Four per Cent. to a Three-and-a-Half per Cent. Stock. To speak, therefore, of bankruptcy in connection with India is "absurd" and "untrue." "I understand," says Mr. Fowler, "a bankrupt to be a man who cannot pay his debts, whose liabilities exceed his assets, or he is living beyond his income, and that in a very short time the end will come."

As to the assets of India, it may be noted that, though their rupee value is rising, the gold value of her liabilities is also increasing rapidly. But stock-taking is not the only or the best means of testing financial stability. The problem is not now how to face liquidation, but how to avoid it. If India can balance revenue and expenditure; if the burden of taxation is not progressive; if taxation is not in danger of becoming excessive; if there is a further safe margin of taxation to meet unavoidable claims, India is amply solvent. Otherwise, while the balance of her liabilities is progressing, her means of meeting them are approaching exhaustion. How does such a situation usually end in the long run?

At the risk of being written down a pessimist, let me review briefly each of the above postulates.

"There has been a surplus in eleven of the fourteen years from 1881." Is this so? Do the accounts show this? But we have to deal with the present and the future, not with the distant past. It may be contended that past experience throws light on future prospects. Very good; but, in that case, if we are to compare like with like (and any other mode of comparison is misleading), comparison must be limited to the last decade. The present dual policy—the policy, that is to say, of a vigorous development of internal resources simultaneously with an energetic military administration—dates from 1885. That is the only possible starting-point of comparison. What does it show? Unless I am mistaken, we find that since 1885 there have been four years of deficit; that, in the current year, deficit is again apprehended; that in one year there has been bare equilibrium: surplus in four years only. This, again, was mainly due to a momentary rise in exchange and to temporary causes.

Note, too, that the last surplus dates four years back, in 1891-92. Note, further, that surplus, such as it was, during the last decade, was not due to normal growth of revenues. In the hope of regaining equilibrium more than 4,000,000 of fresh taxation have been imposed since 1885. Another million has been diverted from the Famine Insurance grant to current needs. Nearly half a million has been taken from the balances at the credit of provincial administrations, which find themselves now without funds for any further material improvement.

As to the remaining postulates, it is not necessary to remind your readers that taxation has been progressive in the last decade. Those who are acquainted with Indian finance know that the burden of taxation is in danger of becoming excessive, and that the further margin of resource to which taxation can be [illegible] small, both in itself and from pressure of political considerations.

To return to Mr. Fowler's three tests. If India's assets at present do not fall greatly short of Indian liabilities, it is certain that she is living beyond her income. But does she pay her debts?

What of her gold liabilities? Has the Secretary of State not borrowed largely in 1893 and 1894 in England to meet his gold engagements? Does any one suppose that these loans will prove temporary only—mere accommodation loans? Can the gold liabilities of the coming year be met by the Secretary of State's drawings, or will further loans or kindred expedients be needed? As to the credit of India, it is high for borrowing purposes, because the ultimate responsibility for the administration of India rests on Great Britain. It may be that the investing public attach undue importance to the connection; but the credit of India will remain high so long as their estimate of the value of such connection continues, whatever may be the state of its finances. "Pessimists" hold that in the crisis through which India is passing it is necessary to reduce expenditure to a minimum and to nurse every possible item of receipt. Railways, if not, as Sir Juland Danvers puts it in his letter published in your issue of February 2, the sheet anchor of Indian finance, furnish, next to land revenue, the most elastic item among Indian receipts. At a time when taxation is being constantly added to, the railway account in the Budget, in consequence of constant construction of new lines, some of which are unproductive, adds nearly, 2,000,000 to the deficit. No one doubts the stimulus given to trade and industry by railway construction. No one, on the other hand, can fail to see that when such construction is accompanied by recurring taxation (by import duties, for example), and when current revenue is diverted from administrative needs to make or to lessen deficit, trade and industry are liable to be hampered. The same financial difficulties which have unhappily compelled the Indian Government to place an import duty on English piece goods seem to disqualify it at present from continuing to be England's customer for large consignments of railway plant. Not only is capital annually borrowed for extension of railway construction works, but (deficit recurring annually) interest on such capital must be also borrowed. All this time expenditure exceeds income. There is no visible chance of any relief from the pressure of exchange; and the fiscal reserves of the Government are approaching a point when they will no longer be able to furnish much increased supply.—I am, Sir, yours faithfully,

Feb. 4. A. COLVIN

THE INDIAN MEDICAL CONGRESS.

(From the *Calcutta Journal of Medicine.*)

THE close of the past year was signalized by an event which, had better counsels prevailed, might have been made the most important event for the medical profession not only in India but throughout the world.

In our number for February, 1894, we gave the news on the authority of the *Pioneer* that at a meeting of the Council of the Calcutta Medical Society held on the 24th January it was decided to hold an "Indian Medical Congress" in Calcutta at the beginning of January 1895. It was also decided to widely advertize the Congress, and to invite all practising medical men of the world, but especially of India and the East, to take part in it.

The Congress was widely advertized in India, but whether the more ambitious part of the programme, of issuing invitations to medical men of the whole world, was carried out or not, we cannot tell. In point of fact, but few medical men outside of India attended the Congress, of whom the most noteworthy was the world renowned editor of the *British Medical Journal*, Mr. Ernest Hart, a gentleman, of whom we of the new school have to be particularly proud for his untiring crusade against our doctrines, our principles, and our practice.

The Congress was held at the end of December of the past year, instead of, as originally contemplated, at the beginning of the present.

As the first Congress of Indian medical men of the old school, it was a great success. With the Viceroy as Patron and the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal as Vice Patron, it could not be otherwise. With Dr. Robert Harvey as its chief organizer and justly elected President, it was bound to be a success. The ability, energy, and enthusiasm, courtesy and tact born of genuine and wide sympathy, and broad catholic views, rare in members of the school to which he belongs, are the qualities which characterize Dr Harvey; and it is to these qualities that the great success of the Congress was largely due. We are certain that if he had his own way in every matter, the success would have been greater.

The conception of holding a Medical Congress in India was an excellent one, and if the grand idea of inviting medical men of all schools from all parts of the world had been carried out, we have no doubt the invitation would have met with a ready response.

In India, as no where else, we have representatives of all schools of medicine, ancient and modern.

We have practitioners of the Hindu system, perhaps the oldest in the world. These go by the name of Kaviraj or Vaidyas, some of whom are men deeply read not only in ancient Hindu medical writings, but in general Sanskrit literature. They are much in favour, chiefly with orthodox Hindus, and not unoften maintain their council, with their dietetic regimen, and, notwithstanding their huge polypharmacy, admirably against their rivals of other systems.

We have practitioners of the Arabian system, lineally descended from the Greek as left by Galen. These go by the name of Hakims, some of whom, like their brethren of the Hindu system, enjoy very great reputation for learning and success. These men are much in favour with the Mahomedan community.

We have practitioners of the European allopathic system, who, having the monopoly of all official posts, constitute here, as throughout the rest of the civilized world, the dominant school, which we from our point of view look upon as the old school.

We have last of all practitioners who have received the same regular professional education as their brethren of the old school, who, therefore, are in perfect accord with them in every thing

that relates to the healing art, except in believing and acting upon that belief that there is a definite law of drug-cure which has been formulated by Hahnemann in the expression *similia similibus curantur*, and that drugs, in order to act remedially when administered in accordance with this law, should be administered in doses less than those which produce physiological or pathogenetic action. It must be admitted that, as regards therapeutics, the primary branch of Medicine, and the very *raison d'être* of the profession, the difference between the two schools is fundamental. But this is no reason why there should be an absolute separation of the two classes of professional men so as to exclude all fellowship and communion, especially as there is no difference between them as regards the very foundation of all therapeutics, anatomy, physiology and pathology. It was to have been expected that the difference which has led to such divergence of practice in dealing with diseases, should have led to closer fellowship and communion between men who have a common object in view, the relief of suffering and the prolongation of life. But events have taken a different turn, and the two schools are now in a state of chronic and bitter opposition to each other. The result has been that the new school, from the fact of the old school being in possession of all official positions, is still under a sort of ban, and effectually prevented from making that progress which otherwise it could have made. Hence the number of its adherents is necessarily much smaller than those of the old. Notwithstanding this, the progress it has already made under such adverse circumstances is astonishing, and in countries, as in the United States of America, where the people have a freer hand in their own government, that progress is proceeding at a rate so as to threaten the extinction of the old school with its present bigotry and intolerance at no distant future.

Such is the position of India with respect to the medical profession. She offers, as no other country can, the singular opportunity of studying the comparative merits of the various systems of medicine that are now in vogue. The projectors of the medical Congress in India might have remembered this fact, and made the Congress a really representative one.

All classes of the Indian community would have lent their hearty support to such a project, if it had been properly laid before the public; there would have been no lack of money to accord suitable welcome to guests from foreign lands, and India would then have presented a spectacle unique in the history of the medical profession.

But it might be supposed that nothing useful could have come out of an assembly of such heterogeneous elements, as Kavirajs and Hakims, allopaths and homœpaths; of men who know nothing of the structure and functions of the human body, and of men who differ so fundamentally in their methods of dealing with disease.

It is true that if the Kavirajs and Hakims have any knowledge of the organism whose disorders they treat, it is a most erroneous and fanciful one, and therefore any contribution from them, or any discussion with them, on the pathology of any disease would be worthless and unprofitable. Nevertheless if we bear in mind that they are sometimes very successful practitioners, combating quite heroically with some of the most formidable diseases, such as dysentery, fevers, dropsies, rheumatism, paralyses, &c., which do not require much accurate pathology for their rough diagnoses, which is all that people care for, and of which the most accurate diagnoses do not often lead to their successful treatment,—if all this is borne in mind, it would be arrogating too much to assume that we can learn nothing from these practitioners. These men, therefore, could not have been altogether without use in the medical congress. It is our belief that if we could exercise tact and charity, and if we had sufficient knowledge of the languages of their authorities, we could have gathered much from their experience which would not have failed to be of substantial utility to Medicine.

Whatever objection might be urged against association with Kavirajs and Hakims, the same cannot with any show of reason be urged against the friendly intercourse of men of the schools into which the scientific branch of the profession is divided. They have, as we have said, every thing in common except therapeutics so far as treatment by drugs is concerned. The excuse for dissociation and dissension is the less when the new school appeals to observation and experiment for the verification of their doctrines,—observation and experiment which it is not only in the competency, but which it is the duty of every regularly trained practitioner, to make to justify his calling. What a splendid opportunity the congress would have afforded for obtaining from some of the veterans of the new school their experience with the new law of drug-cure discovered by a man who, till the time of this discovery, was looked upon as one of the greatest men in the profession of his time. What a splendid opportunity has been lost for the reconciliation and reunion on Indian soil of the two schools of medicine so long and yet so widely separated, which would have tended to the advantage of both, and to the incalculable benefit of suffering humanity.

But it is useless to express regret for the non-occurrence of what might have happened. What has happened has gone to the irrevocable past, and all that now can be done is to take a critical review of it in order to draw from it all the lessons it is capable of yielding. For it cannot be that a Congress, which was planned and organized for nearly a year, which had the support of the Government of India and of the local Governments, and in which over seven hundred medical men took part, some of whom are distinguished by varied attainments if not by much original research,—it cannot be that such a Congress should have terminated its sittings with no substantial result, or with a result which was hardly worth the time and the energy and the money spent upon it.

We learn from a contemporary that over 200 papers were submitted to the Congress, of which 98 were actually read;—39 in the section on Medicine, 19 in that on Surgery, 14 in that on Obstetrics, 16 in that on Pharmacology and Indian Drugs, 10 in that on Legal Medicine and public Health.

The opening ceremony was a grand and imposing one. It was presided over by His Excellency the Viceroy, Lord Elgin, who delivered a short but a very significant speech. This was followed by a long address from the President. Then followed speeches from His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal and Dr. Gallay, Delegate of the French Government from Pondichery, in proposing and seconding a vote of thanks to Dr. Harvey; and speeches from Surgeon-Major-General Bradshaw and Mr. Ernest Hart in proposing and seconding a vote of thanks to His Excellency the Viceroy. All these speeches were good and important, and we intend to notice them in our next. We cannot forbear expressing here the pleasure we felt in listening to Mr. Ernest Hart's eloquent speech. It was such a treat that we forgot for the time being his persistent and almost insane antipathy to Homœopathy.

THE GOOD SLEEP OF A BAD MAN.

In a certain prison that we all have heard of, lay a convict upon his narrow iron cot. He was to be hanged the next morning. Yet he lay there covered by a rough blanket, sleeping as quietly and soundly as a tired schoolboy. Occasionally the guard in the passage outside peered between the bars of the cell, only to find his charge breathing deeply and regularly. This man had violated the law prohibiting murder; yet he had not violated the physical laws governing his own body, and Nature rewarded him as if he had been the noblest of his race.

That same night, less than a mile away, a rich man tossed and tumbled upon his luxurious bed. He was a good and useful member of society, yet he could not sleep. And, worse still, this happened to him every night. Sleep—that blessing which the Psalmist says, "God giveth his beloved," was practically a stranger to his man. What ailed him? The tortures of conscience? Want of money? The fear of enemies? Nothing of the sort. Then why didn't he sleep as well as the murderer? You would like to know? Right, let us look into the matter

"I got no sleep at night; I would lie for hours tossing about. In the morning I was worse tired than when I went to bed."

Thus writes Mrs. Eliza Mathews, of 1, North Road, Burnt Oak, Edgware, near London, under date of September 22nd, 1892. Just two years before this time she lost her health. A foul taste in the mouth, loss of appetite, and great distress after eating were among the first things she complained of. She craved food at times, and fancied she could eat heartily, yet when the very dishes she had asked for were set before her she turned from them as though they were filth from the gutter. Her skin grew sallow, her eyes yellow, and she had a constant pain at her chest, sides, and between her shoulders. Her bowels were constipated and the least exertion set her heart thumping as if it must jump up into her mouth. At such times it was as much as ever that she could get her breath. She got so thin and weak she was no good for work. She couldn't walk out doors without stopping to rest every few rods almost.

The doctor did what he could for her, all any doctor could do. At first he said he thought her illness was owing to the smell of the farmyard. This looked possible. Even the smell of violets has made strong men turn pale and faint dead away. Yet the doctor was wrong. If he had been right, she would have got better when the family left the farm at Bentley Priory and went to live at Burnt Oak. But she was not improved by the change of air; she grew worse and worse.

"In May, 1887" says Mrs. Mathews "I went over to Chelmsford to visit my aunt, Mrs. Troughton. She told me of the good Mother Seigel's Curative Syrup had done her when she had indigestion and dyspepsia. She bought me a bottle, and I began taking it. After a few doses I felt relief. I kept on taking it, and *in two months I was strong and well as ever*. My husband and friends were astonished, yet I assured them that Seigel's Syrup had done it. Yours truly, (Signed) ELIZA MATHEWS"

The point is plain enough. The convict slept soundly because he was a healthy man, although he was a wicked one. Our rich friend tolled about all night because his nerves were unstrung by the state of his stomach. Our correspondent was prostrated by the same thing—indigestion and dyspepsia. The remedy naturally cured her because it has that power. The reason remains a secret with the roots and herbs from which it is made. Yet so long as it drives away disease and gives us back our health and strength, who cares for its mystery? Results, not arguments, are what we all want

"Burnt Oak House, Edgware, September, 22nd, 1892. I have known Mrs. Mathews for some seven years, and remember her long and lingering illness. She informs me that Mother Seigel's Curative Syrup cured her, after medical and other means failed. Mrs. Mathews is a lady of respectability, and her word can be implicitly relied upon. You can use this statement in any way you may think proper. Yours truly, (Signed) T. H. HOUSE, Grocer and General Provision Dealer Burnt Oak Stores, Edgware."

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DROIT ET AVANT.

Reis and Rayyet

(PRINCE & PEASANT)

WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

VOL. XIV. CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, MARCH 16, 1895. WHOLE NO. 666.

CONTEMPORARY POETRY.

THE DEAD SON.

I CANNOT make him dead!
His fair sunshiny head
Is ever bounding round my study chair;
Yet, when my eyes, now dim
With tears, I turn to him,
The vision vanishes—he is not there!

I walk my parlour floor,
And, through the open door,
I hear a footfall on his chamber stair;
I'm stepping toward the hall
To give the boy a call;
And then begin to think—he is not there!

I know his face is hid
Under the coffin lid;
Closed are his eyes; cold is his forehead fair:
My hand that marble felt;
O'er it in prayer, I knelt;
Yet my heart whispers that—he is not there!

I cannot *make* him dead!
When passing by the bed,
So long watched over with parental care,
My spirit and my eye
Seek it inquiringly
Before the thought comes that he is not there!

When, at the cool, gray break
Of day, from sleep I wake,
With my first breathing of the morning air
My soul goes up, with joy,
To Him who gave my boy,
Then comes the sad thought that—he is not there!

When at the day's calm close,
Before we seek repose,
I'm with his mother, offering up our prayer;
Whate'er I may be *saying*,
I am in spirit, praying
For our boy's welfare, though—he is not there!

Not there!—Where then, is he?
The form I used to see
Was but the *raiment* that he used to wear
The grave, that now doth press
Upon the cast off dress,
Is but his wardrobe locked—*he* is not there!

He lives!—in all the past
He lives: nor to the last,
Of seeing him again will I despair;
In dreams I see him now;
And, on his angel brow,
I see it written, "Thou shalt see me *there*"

Yes, we all live to God!
FATHER, thy chastening rod
So help us, thine afflicted ones, to bear,
That, in the spirit land,
Meeting at thy right hand,
'T will be our joy to find that—he is *there!*

DEAFNESS. An essay describing a really genuine Cure for Deafness, Singing in Ears, &c., no matter how severe or long-standing, will be sent post free.—Artificial Ear-drums and similar appliances entirely superseded. Address THOMAS KEMPE, VICTORIA CHAMBERS, 19, SOUTHAMPTON BUILDINGS, HOLBORN, LONDON.

WEEKLYANA.

INVITATIONS were out for an Evening Party at Government House on Thursday. Owing to some cases of measles in the Viceregal household, the Party has been postponed.

***

FOR the convenience of many passengers travelling towards Bombay and the Punjab during March and April, the East Indian Railway will run a special passenger train daily from Howrah commencing from the 19th March. It is intended for passengers for Bombay and will start at 21-42 Railway time, that is, 45 minutes after the regular mail train for the Punjab.

***

MAHARAJA Jotendra Mohun Tagore has offered to Government Rs. 15,000 for the foundation of scholarships for the promotion of Sanskrit learning. With Mrs. Annie Besant among us, there ought to be other similar offers.

***

RULES have been framed for the affiliation of Technical Schools to the Civil Engineering College, Sibpur. The affiliated schools will have the privilege of sending pupils to the College for further training, as apprentices or artizans. Students who have completed their course at the schools will be admissible to the 2nd-year examination of the Apprentice Department in class work and workshop practice. If they pass the examination, they may either join the 3rd-year class of the Apprentice Department, and continue their studies at Sibpur, or the fact that they passed this examination will be endorsed on the certificate they receive from their own school. Affiliated schools will be supplied with machinery and appliances made at Sibpur at specially cheap rates.

***

A FRENCH writer recommends aluminium bullets for suppressing riots and rebellions. The light aluminium bullet does not carry far, only 200 yards or so, and is much less destructive than a lead one, yet sufficiently dangerous to frighten and quell rioters.

***

FROM "The Newspaper Press Directory" for 1895, it appears there are now published in the United Kingdom 2,304 newspapers, distributed as follows:—

"England—London, 456; Provinces, 1,342-1,798; Wales, 98; Scot-

Subscribers in the country are requested to remit by postal money orders, if possible, as the safest and most convenient medium, particularly as it ensures acknowledgment through the Department. No other receipt will be given, any other being unnecessary and likely to cause confusion.

land, 217; Ireland, 168; Isles, 23. Of these there are 152 daily papers published in England, 7 in Wales, 19 in Scotland, 18 in Ireland, and 2 in the British Isles."

The first edition of the Directory, that is, for the year 1846 gives the following facts.—In that year there were published in the United Kingdom 551 journals; of these 14 were issued daily—namely, 12 in England and 2 in Ireland; but in 1895 there are now established and circulated 2,304 papers, of which no less than 198 are issued daily, showing that the Press of the country has more than quadrupled during the last 49 years. The increase in daily papers has been still more remarkable, the daily issues standing 198 against 14 in 1846. There are now published in the United Kingdom 2,081 magazines, of which more than 487 are of a decidedly religious character. Comparing 1895 with 1846 it is estimated that in that year there were only 200 of such publications in existence.

***

"An Unrecorded Chapter of the Indian Mutiny, being Personal Reminiscenes," by Reginald G. Wilberforce, has elicited a strong protest. The following letter appears in the *Times*:—

"Sir,—A book under the above title, published towards the end of last year, is stated to have been compiled from a diary kept by Mr. R. G. Wilberforce and from letters written by him at the time to his father, the late Bishop of Winchester. In consequence probably of the above statement, it was received in good faith and published by the eminent firm of Messrs. J. Murray & Co. and most favourably reviewed in many of the leading papers. The book is made up of anecdotes, hitherto for the most part unheard of, in which the author is the most prominent character, and of stories the extravagance of which carry their own refutation.

Mr. Wilberforce, as junior ensign, in February 1857, joined the 52nd Light Infantry, on the march to Sealkote, in the Punjab. The Mutiny broke out on May 11, when he could not have been dismissed drill, and could have had only a very slight insight into military matters. The publication of this book has caused a great deal of annoyance to the regiment, and especially to those who were at that time serving with it, as some of Mr. Wilberforce's statements disclose a state of discipline most disgraceful to any regiment, while others, equally without foundation, reflect severely on the character of individuals. Under these circumstances, Mr. Wilberforce was written to and asked to withdraw the book. He declined to do so, though acknowledging errors on certain important points.

In December last four letters impugning the veracity of the book were published in the *Morning Post*; in the *Army and Navy Gazette* a letter from Major Bayley showed the utter want of truth of two of Mr. Wilberforce's statements; and the January number of the *United Service Magazine* contained an article, under the heading of 'Mutiny Myths,' citing by name the authority of those who could contradict the statements, and commenting severely on the absurdity and untruthfulness of the book. To these there has been no answer. An appeal to withdraw the book has been made to Messrs. J. Murray, accompanied by what we consider convincing evidence of the character of the book. They, after communicating with Mr. Wilberforce, who informed them that, notwithstanding certain inaccuracies, his main facts were correct, wrote that it was Mr. Wilberforce's duty to answer the charges made against him; that it was not for them to act as arbiters between us, and suggested our writing to the leading papers. We do not agree with the view Messrs. J. Murray take, and consider that they in their position have shown great want of diligence in publishing as history a work of such evident fiction. They are, of course, the best judges of their position; but we have no other course open to us than to ask you, sir, in the interests of the Army at large, to find space for this letter.—Yours truly,

C. R. Crosse, Lieutenant-Colonel, late 52nd;
J. A. Bayley, Major, late 52nd Light Infantry;
G. H. W. Windsor Clive, Lieutenant-Colonel, late 52nd Light Infantry;
Thos. A. Julian, late Captain 52nd Light Infantry;
Seymour J. Blane, Major-General, late 52nd Light Infantry;
W. J. Stopford, late Adjutant 52nd Light Infantry,

who all served in the movable column and at the siege and assault of Delhi.

United Service Club, Feb. 18."

***

After a suspended animation of seven months, the *Moslem World* has been revived with the New Year, but very much emasculated. Mr. Mohammed Alexander Russell Webb, in the new number—I. Vol. I.—of the *Moslem World and Voice of Islam*, thus explains the discontinuance and revival:—

"To my Oriental Brothers.

As there are thousands of English-speaking Mussulmans in the Orient who have never fully understood why the publication of *The Moslem World* was discontinued, and as numerous vicious falsehoods and misrepresentations concerning me and my work have been circulated there by persons who have pretended to be converts of Islam, in order to better their worldly conditions, it seems proper, at this time, to explain briefly the character of my contract with Hajee Abdulla Arab Sahib, of Jeddah, Arabia, under which I was given the management of The Moslem World Co.'s affairs.

This contract was signed at the American Consulate in Manila, the capital city of the Philippine Islands, in the presence of an upright, honorable witness from Bombay, India. The portion of it which refers to finances reads as follows:

'We agree to advance $13,500 for the American Propaganda, for the establishment and maintenance of its publication department and lecture course for one year and, if necessary, $10,000 for each of two subsequent years for the maintenance of the same. We also agree to provide for the proper maintenance of yourself and family.'

After this contract was signed, the expression: 'We also agree to provide for the proper maintenance of yourself and family,' was modified by mutual agreement, in the presence of the witness referred to, and I consented to accept a regular salary of $200 per month, to begin on the day of my retirement from the U. S. Consular Service, *i. e.*, the 6th of Sept., 1892.

Hajee Abdulla Arab also made the proposition, in the presence of the witness, and it was mutually agreed that this contract should run for five years instead of three.

I arrived in America on the 16th of February, 1893, and as Hajee Abdulla had failed to send $2,000 which he had promised to send me by telegraph, I was compelled to wait until the first of April in order to begin operations.

The total amount paid to me by Hajee Abdulla Arab was $10,243 01, which included the amount paid for my passage and incidental expenses from Bombay to New York. The last sum I received from Hajee Abdulla Arab under this contract, came on the 16th of November, 1893, more than a year ago. The sum total received from him for the support of *The Moslem World*, exclusive of my salary, was $3,256 99 *less* than he agreed to furnish the first year. The total amount of subscriptions received was $518 97.

The journal was kept alive by careful management until eight numbers had been issued, and I found myself compelled to stop its publication. But from loans and contributions from others than Hajee Abdulla Arab I should have been compelled to close my New York offices on the first of January, 1894. I managed, however, in the face of most harassing conditions, to keep them open until about the 1st of June last, when they were closed permanently.

Notwithstanding Hajee Abdulla's failure to comply with the terms of his contract, and in spite of the vigorous, persistent and utterly unprincipled efforts of our enemies to destroy our mission, I have been enabled, with God's help, to continue the good work undertaken for Islam, and the results have fully equalled my expectations. God put it into the minds of faithful Mussulmans to come to my relief when help was most needed, and if He spares my life, I will perform, to the best of my ability, all I promised to do under my contract with Hajee Abdulla Arab.

God knoweth the hearts of all men and will judge us both.

Peace be with you and with all who follow the true path.

Your Brother,
Md. Alexander Russell Webb."

It is to be hoped that those "faithful Mussulmans" who are supporting Mr. Mohammed Webb will not back out like his first patrons. The above is, however, one side of the story. Hajee Abdulla Arab may have another version to give to the world. At any rate, the establishment of a professed Mussulman organ in the heart of Christendom is not an ordinary event. A journal written in English and devoted to the interests of the Mussulman propaganda, may effect much. Even if it fails to gain converts or "perverts," as Christian Missionaries in loving faith generally style those who desert their fold, it is sure to succeed in vindicating the Faith from many unjust aspersions.

***

Here is a glimpse into the Pandemonium of the Press in India. It is not every proprietor of a newspaper establishment than can bring the dark deeds into light, nor every judge who can have the boldness to punish the mischief makers. All credit, therefore, to Mr. J. O'B. Saunders and to Mr. K. M. Chatterjee!

"Mr. K. M. Chatterji, third Judge, [Calcutta Small Cause Court] heard the case of Hiralall Sukul *vs.* J. O'B. Saunders. This was a suit for the recovery of Rs. 39 which plaintiff claimed on account of wages from the defendant, who is the proprietor of the *Englishman*. Babu Bholun Mohon Sen, pleader for the plaintiff, in opening his case said that his client was a compositor attached to the printing staff of the *Englishman*, on a salary of Rs. 25 per month. That on the 27th December last he felt unwell at office. And before leaving mentioned the fact to another compositor there and requested him, in case of his absence from work on the following day, to report the illness to the head of the department. That owing to such illness he was prevented from attending to his duties till the 1st of January when on putting in an appearance he was told to discontinue his services as he had absented himself for the four previous days without leave. That although his client considered himself entitled to pay for the whole of December he only sued for the 27 days he had actually worked.

Mr. Withall, solicitor, who appeared for the defendant contended that having left the service on the evening of the 27th December without notice to, or leave from, the defendant, the plaintiff had by law forfeited his salary for those days by not completing the month. His client entirely denied the plaintiff's allegation, but on the contrary he was instructed that plaintiff had in the beginning of December applied for an increase of salary and had requested Babu Sidhonath Bannerjee, the Printer, to recommend the increase, which was not complied with, and that apparently plaintiff took umbrage at this and wilfully absented himself, thinking that such absence would inconvenience the establishment, and thus produce the desired effect, viz., of the increment, and that two other assistants in the office had seen plaintiff at the office gate on the 28th and 29th December, where he was loitering about, inducing others not to replace him. The plaintiff and his witness Kuny

Lall Sett were examined and deposed to the facts as stated by plaintiff's pleader, after which the defendant's Printer Babu Sidhonath Bunnerjee and two other assistants of the defendant's office, viz, Jogendro Nath Ghose and Mihir Chunder Bannerjee deposed to the facts urged on behalf of the defence.

The Court in delivering judgment made some very strong comments on the plaintiff's evidence. It found on the facts that plaintiff had deliberately, without any just cause, absented from his duties on the aforesaid four days, apparently with the object of inconveniencing the office and thus compelling his employer to give him an increased salary. It remarked that such a course of conduct by an employé, if encouraged, would be very dangerous and prove serious to an establishment like that of the defendant's and that unless strict discipline and order were observed in such an office, it would be impossible to carry out such responsible work with satisfaction. It was quite satisfied with the straightforward manner in which the Printer, Babu Sidhonath Bannerjee, had given his evidence, and it could not help but coming to the conclusion that the plaintiff had wilfully absented himself. It would therefore dismiss the plaintiff's case and award defendant a full pleader's certificate and costs, and it hoped that this would serve as a warning to other employés who were inclined to treat their masters in a similar manner."

NOTES & LEADERETTES,

OUR OWN NEWS,

&

THE WEEK'S TELEGRAMS IN BRIEF, WITH OCCASIONAL COMMENTS.

THE Chinese peace envoys were to have left Tientsin for Japan yesterday. The *Times* publishes a telegram from its correspondent at Pekin stating that China, through the United States Ministers at Pekin and Tokio, has already agreed to the points for discussion at the peace conference. They include the autonomy of Corea, the cession of territory, and the payment of a war indemnity to the Japanese. The *Times* itself believes that Japan will demand the cession of the island of Formosa and the Liaotag Peninsula. The *Novoe Vremya* publishes a telegram from Tientsin stating that Japan demands from China the cession of the province of Manchuria up to Mukden and the Great Wall. Nothing authentic, however, is known in London, not to say in India which receives all her news about the East by way of London, regarding the Japanese conditions of peace. Even all official efforts to elicit particulars in respect thereto have failed everywhere.

News has been received that a portion of the first Japanese army has captured Yinkow. The Chinese fled to Thien-chuang-lai after the first onslaught delivered by the enemy The first and second Japanese armies effected a junction later at Yinkow. It is stated that the Japanese guards are protecting the foreign settlement at Yinkow The Japanese captured the coast forts of Yinkow on the 7th. On the morning of the 9th the Japanese forces attacked Thien-chuang-lai, to which place the Chinese had fled from Yinkow. A fierce fight, which lasted over three hours, ensued, during which the Chinese lost two thousand men and the Japanese ninety-six. The Chinese have also been driven out of Denshodai by the Japanese with the loss of fourteen hundred. The *Times* publishes a telegram from its correspondent at Kobe stating that the Japanese intend using the Pescadores for a base of operations against the island of Formosa and South China.

THE Queen-Empress started for Nice on the 13th March.

HER Majesty has been pleased to confer the Order of the Crown of India upon Mrs. Fowler and Lady Sandhurst.

LORD Rosebery continues weak and depressed in spirits. Mr. Fowler's condition is so prostrate that it will be many days before he will be allowed to see anyone.

THE Right Hon. A. W. Peel, the Speaker of the House of Commons, retires on the eve of the Easter recess. The election of a successor will be the first business of the House after the recess. Thereafter, the Budget will be presented.

It is understood that Mr. Campbell-Bannerman has intimated his willingness to become the Speaker provided it is generally desired. The leaders of the opposition are favourable to Mr. Campbell-Bannerman succeeding Sir A. W. Peel, but they would support Sir Mathew White Ridley if the Government proposes anybody unacceptable to them.

CYPRUS has proved a White Elephant to England. In reply to a question, Sir William Harcourt stated that the island was absolutely useless for every purpose to England; but having accepted the responsibility under an agreement concluded between Great Britain and Turkey, England must do her best with that colony notwithstanding the growing cost of its possession.

OWING to the outbreak of influenza among them, the students of the Royal Military Academy at Woolwich have dispersed.

THE Marquis of Queensbury, charged with libelling Mr. Oscar Wilde, has been committed to trial, bail being accepted. The Marquis has declared before the Magistrate that he maintained the charge and added that he wrote words on a card implying a horrible crime against Wilde in order to save his son.

A RESOLUTION has been passed in the Newfoundland House of Assembly to open negotiations with Great Britain and Canada with a view to attain the confederation of Newfoundland with Canada. Lord Ripon, however, refuses any aid in the matter without a commission of enquiry.

THE *Times* publishes a telegram from its correspondent at Rome that France, in arming and strengthening the Abyssinians, pursues a dangerous game for herself and all the European Powers. Moreover, the correspondent adds that France in 1891 recognised anew that Abyssinia and her dependencies, including Harrar, were within the Italian sphere of influence.

IT is reported from Obok that the expedition to Abyssinia equipped by the Russian Geographical Society and Government under the command of Captain Leontieff (lately an officer of the Guards, who was sent by the Russian Government three years back in charge of an exploring party to Central Asia, especially to the Pamirs,) has safely reached Djibuti, where the members were cordially received and entertained by the French officials. It is the intention of the clergy of Abyssinia to send an Embassy to greet the new Czar and establish regular relations with Russia.

A CROWD of infuriated inhabitants of Walsenbury, Colorado, lynched several Italians accused of the murder of an inoffensive saloon-keeper After shooting several Italians in the streets the party marched to the goal and shot dead two more of that nationality in the prison cells The Italian Government has formally complained to the United States authorities regarding the atrocities.

DURING the debate in the House of Commons on the estimates, a statement was made on behalf of Government undertaking to hasten to the utmost the abolition of slavery in Zanzibar and Pemba.

SIR Richard Temple, speaking at the opening of the new building of the United Service Institute, urged the officers to make Imperial federation the primary object of study, as the separation of the Colonies would involve an awful disadvantage, especially in respect of the scattered commerce of Great Britain

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IN the House of Commons, on March 11, Sir E Ashmead Bartlett asked the Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs whether any steps were being taken by the Government in connection with the agreement just made public between Belgium and France which affected the interests of Great Britain in the Nile Valley, also if the Government would give any information as to the position of affairs in Central Africa. He suggested that France had already secured access to the Nile. Sir Edward Grey, in reply, said that the effect of the recent treaty concluded between France and Belgium upon British interests would continue to receive the most careful attention of her Majesty's Government. He added that the combined British and Egyptian spheres of influence would cover the whole Nile waterway.

NEXT night, Mr. Edmund Robertson, one of the Lords of the Admiralty, introduced the Navy Estimates. He said that all the seventy ships provided for in the programme of the Naval Defence Act had been completed. In order to meet the expenses of protective works at Portsmouth, Dover, Portland, Gibraltar, Hongkong and some other places, it was the intention of Her Majesty's Government, Mr. Robertson said, to contract for a loan of £8,500,000, which will be disbursed in yearly instalments. He further said that this year's Naval Loan Bill will contain no provision for the extension of dock-yards at Hongkong, but the Admiralty hoped to make a preliminary survey of the harbour before commencing works in connection therewith. The *Times* urges the importance of avoiding further delay in undertaking the much needed protective works at Hongkong owing to the altered condition of things in the Far East. The Opposition generally approve of the Naval Estimates of 1895-96.

IN the House of Commons, on March 14, at the sitting of the Committee of Supply on the Army Estimates, Sir Richard Temple moved a resolution to the effect that the home military charges borne by India were excessive and unjust Mr. R. W. Hanbury supported the resolution. The Secretary for War said that Her Majesty's Government were anxious to save India from any unfair charges, but they were not prepared to contribute from the British Exchequer to the revenues of India for charges which they believed to be just and equitable for India to bear. He added that a Commission of Enquiry on the matter may be useful, but probably the result will not be very favourable to Indian finance. The motion, as was expected, was rejected by 88 against 25.

THE Viceroy starts for the summer capital on Friday, the 29th March, the day after the discussion of the Budget in Council, visiting, on the way, Gaya, Bankipore and Umballa Cantonment. Lord Elgin will arrive at Simla on Saturday, the 6th April, 1895.

SIR Antony MacDonnell does not join his new post at once. Wiser than Sir Charles Elliott, he goes home on leave of six months, and comes out as Lieutenant-Governor of the N.-W. Provinces and Chief Commissioner of Oudh. In the meantime, the Hon'ble Mr. Alan Cadell will continue to act as he had been doing during the absence on leave of the Hon'ble Sir Charles Haukes Todd Crosthwaite, who has now resigned.

AN Oriental scholar of America, writing to a friend in this country says :—

"On this side the Atlantic we mourn the loss this year of Professor Whitney. He was in some respects *facile princeps* in the little band of American Sanskritists; and by persistent efforts on his part, and especially by the enthusiasm for his favourite studies he inspired in others, he did more for Sanskrit learning than any of those he leaves behind with us. Professor Lanman was deeply attached to his old master and is disconsolate over his irreparable loss."

Professor Whitney made his spear ring on the shield of the great Max Muller. His love of accuracy was as great as that of Colebrooke. If he hated anything, it was slovenly work. He convicted his eminent antagonist of having published a translation from Sanskrit, some of the Upanishads, that had been executed many years before and at a time when Sanskrit scholarship had made little advance. No wonder that he succeeded in pointing out some real errors. The Indian Press failed to do its duty by Professor Whitney after his death, for, with the exception of the *Times of India* and *Reis and Rayyet*, no Indian paper referred to him and his work on receipt of the sad intelligence of his death

ACT X of 1895, which received the assent of the Governor-General on the 7th of March last, is an important legislative measure. It empowers Railway Companies registered under the Act of 1882 to pay, under certain restrictions, interest on paid up shares out of the capital. The first of these restrictions is that such interest shall be paid for such period only as may be determined by the Governor-General in Council. No such payment, however, is to be made unless it is authorised by the memorandum of association or by a special resolution of the Company. In either case, the Governor-General's sanction must be had previous to payment. Then, again, such sanction will not be granted unless at least two-thirds of the share capital has actually been issued and accepted. A few other limitations occur which are called for under the circumstances of the case. It may be presumed that this Act will directly operate in favour of Railway extension in India. Hitherto, in the case of long lines whose construction could not be expected to be finished soon enough people were unwilling to invest their money. Nobody wishes to be out of pocket in hopes of profit deferred possibly for years. Quick returns are always sought. Railway Companies, therefore, were frequently obliged to complete their lines with a haste that was incompatible with either economy or solidity of construction. It frequently happened that stores had to be purchased at high prices when reductions could be foreseen at no distant date. Expedition sometimes interferes with durability of work. With the new Act, therefore, empowering the Companies to pay interest out of capital upon paid up shares, such interest being chargeable to construction, they will be able to avoid haste and enforce economy. Shares will be more readily taken up than before, since no one will have to wait long in expectation of some return for what is laid out. However objectionable the practice may be of paying interest out of capital, the wholesome restrictions provided minimise the objections; while the advantages expected are such that Railway extension in India is very likely to derive a fresh impetus.

AT the Indian Medical Congress, Baboo Jogender Nath Ghosh, Teacher of Midwifery, Campbell Medical School, Calcutta, read a paper on Biliary Cirrhosis of Children. He ventures to think that it is altogether a new disease that has lately appeared among the children of certain classes in Calcutta and other parts of lower Bengal. The treatment pursued generally proves unsuccessful. Current books on the practice of medicine do not mention this ailment. The literature on the subject is still very meagre. The following extract from the address will give some idea of what the disease is to which the writer calls the attention of his brother practitioners :—

"The peculiar features of the disease are that its onset is insidious, that it usually prevails among infants under the age of one year, that it seldom attacks children after they have passed the third year. The attack generally commences on the 7th or the 8th month, chiefly at the period of dentition or the mother's next conception. The children of some parents are particularly liable to the disease In one family, I have observed fourteen children of the same parents die one after the other. Cases of attack on the third or fourth month, or even a few days immediately after birth of the child, have also been noted. Children in Calcutta, as well as in the Districts of Bengal, whether malarious or non-malarious, are equally subject to it. It makes no difference between the children of the intemperate, the sober or the teetotaller. It spares neither rich nor poor, though the well-fed children of the wealthy and the middle classes are more liable to it than the ill-fed children of the poorer classes. Muhammadan and Eurasian children suffer less than the Hindus. Hardly any cases are seen among Europeans. Children who were never put, or put for a short time only, on the mother's breast, and fed with cow's, goat's or ass's milk, or with different kinds of artificial food, enjoy no immunity from this disease. In those families where the disease prevailed, I noticed a few children escape apparently from being nourished by healthy wet nurses When the disease was first noticed in Calcutta, more cases were found among male than among female children : but of late the proportion seems to be less, and more female children than formerly now come under the notice of practitioners. Still, I shall point this out as a peculiar feature of the disease Another peculiarity noticed is that the female children mostly attacked are usually the first-born of the parents and who are necessarily the objects of great care in a family"

The symptomatology of the disease, as also its etiology, as given by Babu Jogendra Nath Ghosh, appears to be very full Of course there must be something conjectural in its etiology, but that is only one of the principal reasons why the disease should be taken up for immediate study by medical men in Bengal. During the first stage the diagnosis is difficult, but soon the symptoms become unmistakable. A painless enlargement of the liver which then becomes firm and resistant leaves no doubt as to the nature of the disease. The enlargement becomes enormous and then the contraction begins. The disease is capable of being mistaken for amyloid liver, but the latter is very rare in this country and its known causes are, as a rule, absent. The prognosis is extremely unfavourable. The profession is now helpless and Mr. Ghosh appeals to his brethren to take up the disease for careful study. It need not be so fatal as now.

DEAFNESS COMPLETELY CURED! Any person suffering from Deafness, Noises in the Head, &c., may learn of a new, simple treatment, which is proving very successful in completely curing cases of all kinds. Full particulars, including many unsolicited testimonials and newspaper press notices, will be sent post free on application. The system is, without doubt, the most successful ever brought before the public. Address, Aural Specialist, Albany Buildings, 39, Victoria Street, Westminster, London, S. W.

A REMARKABLE woman, remarkable even for England, has passed away in the Dowager Lady Stanley of Alderley. She was born on December 21, 1807, married in 1826 and has just died, leaving her surviving 8 out of 12 children and 80 grand-children and great-grand-children. Within even a week of her death, she was full of activity. It was not the length of years or the number of her children, grand-children or great-grand-children that made her great. She had led an exemplary life. She was not only present at the coronation and the jubilee of Her Majesty the Queen, but she had seen the jubilee of George III. For 68 years she maintained an active interest in every political question of her time. She had another striking side of her character. "Brought into contact from her youth with the best intellects of the time, possessed with an active curiosity to extract from any one whatever he could teach, tolerant of everything but dulness, and endowed with a singularly retentive memory, she gathered from her 70 years of active life and study inexhaustible materials to feed a naturally very quick intelligence. Her long friendship with Carlyle, begun in 1830, lasted uninterruptedly for 50 years until his death, and influenced one side of her character as the teachings of F. D. Maurice did the other. But she was perpetually adding to her knowledge; there was no book of any note on any possible subject that she was not one of the first to order, and the casual visitor found her equally ready to discuss Mr. Conway on the Himalayas, Mr. Kidd on Social Evolution, or Professor Ramsay on the new element. Quite recently, after studying the question of the Parnis, she said, 'If I were only ten years younger I would go there myself and be able to understand it better.' On one of the last visits paid her by Mr. Gladstone, when the ex-Premier endeavoured to turn the subject of conversation from the dangerous one of politics to a recent novel, she is reported to have said, 'Don't let's talk of novels; leave them for your old age as I do.'" Such is the compliment paid her by the *Times*. That can be said of few of even the sterner sex. We tender our sincerest condolences to Lord Stanley of Alderley. He has proved worthy of the mother. His services, besides, to India, though not always patent, have been very great. The death of a mother, at whatever age, is always painful. What must be the intensity of grief when one loses such a mother as the late Dowager Lady Stanley of Alderley!

HERE is how they speak of the English translation of the Mahábhárata that Pratapa Chandra Roy was issuing and that will be completed by his widow with such assistance as she may be able to get. An Oriental scholar, writing to Pratap, from Hamilton, Canada, says —

"I recently saw our common friend, Mr. James Charlton of Chicago, U. S. He is an excellent man, a devoted lover of general literature, enthusiastic in his attachment to ancient Indian learning, and with great industry has collected for several years past all the English translations of Hindu writings he could find. It would have done you much good to hear him discourse on the value of your services to the cause of learning, to the British Raj, and to the people of India. There is, he says, the possibility of not seeing the forest for trees; and you are so near to your own work, that although you doubtless know it is great and serviceable, even you yourself are unconscious of its true value. All this was pleasant to me to hear, and it will help to relieve the monotonous prosaic routine of your work."

The number of fascicules already issued or printed having been 94, 6 or 7 more are needed to bring this great task to completion. Pratapa Chandra Roy has left no funds. His whole property consists of the house in which he lived and had his office, and a few copies of the Mahábhárata in original and translation. His widow has applied to the Bengal Government for an additional grant for which she has offered, as some return, a hundred copies of the Sanskrit Mahábhárata. There are numerous Higher Class English Schools and Colleges and other educational institutions in Bengal. The Mahábhárata in original will form a valuable accession to the libraries of these institutions. If the Government be unwilling to pay, even for such a purpose, anything from its own funds, these institutions may be induced to take the copies offered, especially when the price demanded is a trifle.

AMONG the numerous recipients in Europe and America of the English translation of the Mahábhárata, there are some ladies of solid culture. The following expression of opinion was received by Roy a little before his death :—

"I hope the Almighty will in His mercy, restore you to health and enable you to see the completion of your noble task, especially as you are so near to it. Your work gives us a thorough insight into the Hindu mind and customs. Although written so many centuries ago, it well pourtrays the mind of your people at the present day,—their spiritual as well as their moral character. It is a wonderful undertaking, Mr. Roy, and we owe a great deal to you. To most of us it seems that the Rig Veda itself must yield in practical importance to the Mahábhárata. That ancient work offers glimpses of a society that is no longer existing. The Mahabharata gives living pictures of Hindu society."

Roy's lady-correspondent is perfectly right in her estimate of the great Indian epic.

THE Chaudhuris of Barnipur have lost one of their prominent members in Baboo Khetter Mohun. His death is, indeed, a loss to that municipal town. Like Santipore, Barnipur, is not a city of peace. Yet the deceased was Vice-Chairman of the Municipality for many years and, overcoming all opposition, was Chairman last year. He may be said to have died in the execution of his duty. On Friday morning he had complained of diarrhœa. In the afternoon a notice of fire having reached him, he hurried to the spot and assisted in extinguishing it. On return home, he complained of much uneasiness. Symptoms of cholera developed, and before any medical aid could be obtained from Calcutta, Baboo Khetter Mohun had ceased to breathe.

THE following is the text of a Bill introduced by the Hon'ble Mohini Mohun Roy into the Viceroy's Legislative Council —

"No Civil Court shall, in any suit for a simple money debt or a mortgage-debt instituted after the commencement of this Act, decree or award interest exceeding in amount the original principal, or, where there has been payment in reduction of the principal, exceeding in amount the reduced principal.

Explanation.—The word 'interest' means the amount of interest due or payable at the date of the suit, exclusive of payments previously made."

Permission to introduce the Bill was readily granted. The Council hailed with satisfaction the proposition to save debtors from unconscionable creditors.

REIS & RAYYET.

Saturday, March 16, 1895

MIXED MARRIAGES:

THE MISERIES CAUSED IN MAHOMEDAN HOMES.

IT must have struck even superficial observers that the Mahomedan community, which is admittedly backward in English education, had for sometime been far ahead of other communities in sending young men for education to England. Behar especially took the lead and sent the largest number. It was also remarkable that nearly ninety-five per cent. of the students were sent to study for the bar. It is admitted by experienced and well-informed Mahomedan gentlemen that many of their brethren were sending boys very indiscriminately, without properly considering their qualities and character, or weighing their future prospects. The project of making a barrister of every boy who was unfit here for anything else, continued for at least half a decade. There was some discussion from time to time in the newspapers regarding the advisability or otherwise of sending all classes of disappointed boys to England. Their prospects, on their return to this country, in the bar, the Civil Service, or some independent profession, were not regarded very hopeful. It is not our object to discuss that question in the present article. For some time the wisdom of sending Mahomedan young men to England for purposes of education, has engaged the serious attention of Mahomedan parents and guardians. The reason, perhaps, is not known to the public, although it has spread quite a panic among that community. Parents have begun to change their minds and hesitate to send their boys out. The question arises, why this sudden alteration of attitude? At first, Mahomedans visiting England rarely married English women and brought them out here as their partners in life. The number of those that married was few, and the matter

did not attract much attention beyond causing a temporary sensation in limited circles. The spouses brought were of different sorts, good, bad, and indifferent, and we are not prepared to discuss the result of those marriages here. It must be stated, however, that those who took English wives were all bachelors. Notwithstanding, it was a dangerous example to the younger generations of their own community as will be seen from facts stated later on.

To prevent such unions, parents and guardians would avoid sending their boys unmarried. This rule certainly could not be adhered to in all cases, for many bachelors also made their way to England. We believe the proportion of bachelors to the married was large enough. Within the last few years, more than half a dozen Mahomedan barristers in Bengal, Behar and the North-Western Provinces have married English women in England and brought them out. Of these, some belong to good families. It seems that these young and inexperienced gentlemen have married under different circumstances and influences and with different results. Some were tempted to the tie under the belief that it would advance their professional prospects, while others would find in it an introduction to European society. In most cases, however, let us hope, it was no such wordly motive but pure love that joined eastern and western hands and hearts together.

It is very difficult to predict the result in every case. Past experience, and information about some recent unions, show that they cannot be happy in the long run. Both parties shall have to repent their mistake. There is no doubt that in most cases the marriages have been due to the absence of full information about the family circumstances, the financial resources, and the future professional prospects of the benedicts. Otherwise, probably, one would fail to account for the mistakes that have happened. There is a large number of women of marriageable age in England whose prospects in the matrimonial market of their own country are not very bright. Most of them, again, are so ill-provided or friendless as not to be able to live comfortably or decently at home. Every Mahomedan student of whatever parentage and means, arrayed in his embroidered cap and *zari-choga* in England, passes among the unknowing for an Indian Nawab. Dazzled by the lustre of gold and silver embroidery, and sometimes forced by sheer necessity, an English girl chooses as her husband an would-be barrister or doctor or engineer. It is difficult to ascertain whether the English girls married by these young men are equal to them in social position, respectability, and income, or to such Indian girls to whom they could have been married on their return to India. It has sometimes been found that not being of good position in their own home, they are not admitted into respectable or high European society in India. Only those who have come in contact with them can, of course, form some idea of the strata of society from which they have been indented. It is not everybody, therefore, who can know the position which these girls hold in English circles at home.

It is a strict rule with almost all Englishmen that they never marry until they attain a certain age and have sufficient money for comfortably supporting themselves and their wives. We have hardly seen any young English barrister or Civilian coming out to India freighted with that expensive commodity called a wife. The unfortunate Englishwoman who takes a fancy to the Indian student believes in her heart that he has the means to maintain her in a style not unlike that of those countrywomen of hers who are mated to Anglo-Indian Civilians, or merchants or planters, or barristers that have not to depend, for at least the first few years of their practice, upon their professional earnings. What pictures of comfort and even grandeur she conjures up before her mind's eye of her future home! If she only knew his real condition, she would never think the game worth the candle. The situation is exactly the reverse of that which Tennyson has described in his *Lord of Burleigh*. It is not the disappointment of a village maiden who, having expected to become the mistress of a neat little cottage, suddenly discerns before her a gateway with armorial bearings stately, and then a mansion more majestic than all she saw before, with many a gallant gay domestic bowing before the landscape-painter of her choice and speaking in gentle murmur when they answer to his call. It would require another Tennyson to paint the destruction that overtakes the castles she had built at the time she had chosen her lord. Generally, a young barrister on his return is himself a burden on his parents and family, and is looked upon as an expensive luxury. For some years he has to be supported by his guardian or relations. In their absence he has to keep his body and soul together by self-exertion. Under such circumstances, he becomes doubly expensive by bringing out an English wife. He soon finds that marriage, instead of making one person of two individuals, obliges him to double every article of necessity, not to say of comfort.

Englishwomen that are bent upon such adventurous marriages, commit a great mistake; but the young men who tempt them to that act by neglecting to disabuse them, are more to be blamed. India cannot prove a bed of roses for these women. They, as a rule, are not admitted into the society of individuals of their own nation who are ruling this country. Even when admitted, their husbands are often unable to keep up a style of living equal to that of the Civilians or of those belonging to the wealthy non-official classes of Europeans. The zenana or Mahomedan society is not for them. There are not sufficient Eurasians and Anglicised Baboos and go-ahead Brahmos in mofussil stations with whom they can mix. They cannot preside over a Mahomedan household effectually and exercise a salutary influence over all female relations and sympathise with them in their difficulties and misfortunes. With all their western education and culture, they are of no use in a Mahomedan household. They cannot expect any sympathy from the orthodox Mahomedans.

Our object is to draw the attention of the Mahomedan public in India and of Englishmen at home, to three most painful and heart-rending cases of marriage between Mahomedan barristers and Englishwomen in recent years. These have not only caused great alarm and consternation in the Mahomedan community of Bengal, Behar, and the N.-W Provinces, but have also made the worldly prospects and happiness of three Mahomedan ladies, who, under the custom of their society, have been subjected to enforced widowhood for the rest of their lives, most miserable. In these cases all the three barristers were married men who went to England leaving their wives in India. Forgetting their spouses left behind, they wooed and won charming and accomplished Englishwomen. Under the English

law they could not have married during the life time of their Indian wives and, therefore, their unfortunate Indian wives had to be divorced. These unhappy ladies are, we believe, still alive. We cannot say that these gentlemen concealed the fact of their previous marriage when taking new wives. As educated persons and barristers, they could not have been unaware of the serious results of such a dangerous course. The probability, therefore, is that both the Indian husband and the English wife must have agreed to achieve happiness for themselves by a cruel compact. If without having divorced the Indian wife any of these marriages took place, that marriage must be illegal if solemnized under the English law. These gentlemen who with their boasted western civilization and culture have adopted this heartless course and abused the Mahomedan law of divorce simply to get English wives, are deserving of censure. We do not think that any respectable person would admit them into his society. The English women also, that did not take the necessary precaution of ascertaining the antecedents of their foreign husbands, are equally to blame. They who had in all probability made the divorce of their innocent Indian sisters the condition of their own marriage, must be held to have forfeited all title to respect from every just and impartial Englishman. The mere mention, again, of such conduct would, we are sure, send a thrill of indignation, through every respectable English lady. We think this new class of Indian widows —of ladies, that is, who have been widowed by the action of their living husbands,—would command the sympathy of the whole civilized world. Noble Englishmen and Englishwomen who have done and are doing so much to ameliorate the condition of Indian ladies, cannot close their eyes to the gradual formation of a class whose misery and misfortune it has been our sad duty to bring for the first time to the notice of the public.

It is quite permissible under the Mahomedan law to have one or more wives, up to even four, but it is quite a different thing to divorce a wife simply for getting another. The mischief which has already been done cannot be remedied, but the question for serious consideration is how to stop it in the future. If not stopped, the number of this new class of widows will go on increasing. One such case means ruin to the family to which that unfortunate lady belongs. Generally, the young Indians who become guilty of this outrage have not as yet been able to marry in the better classes of English society. There is practically very little chance of their doing so. If the chance had existed, the Indian girls would have been safe, for no respectable English woman would consent to have a husband on such terms. When these facts are known to the Europeans here and in their home, it may be hoped that such hasty and ill-matched unions will be effectionally prevented. We know how high and noble are the ideas of Englishmen about the rights and privileges of women, and we hope our appeal on behalf of a helpless and miserable class of Indian women will impress them with the necessity of adopting some safeguard for the protection of both parties. We are sure that these untoward facts, by becoming known to that class of Englishwomen who are anxious to marry Indian princes and zemindars and barristers without waiting to consider the effects of their act, and to their parents and guardians as well, will awaken in them a proper sense of responsibility.

As stated above, this question has engaged the serious and anxious attention of Mahomedan parents and guardians, and they are considering the various phases of these mixed unions and their results, some of which have affected directly their happiness, position, honour and pockets.

MRS ANNIE BESANT AND HINDUISM.

MRS Annie Besant is in our midst again, and has been lecturing almost every day since her arrival. Despite what her admirers think and say, we have never been able to discover any philosophy or depth of research in her orations, on this or any previous occasion, and it does not seem to us that they call for any notice on account of any intrinsic merit in them, apart from the characteristic of word-painting they disclose. In fact, if they were quite harmless, and not likely to be productive of very serious evils in the future, the fact that the speaker is a lady and an admirer of our nation and our religion, would disincline us to make any adverse comments. The late Keshav Chandra Sen who tried to play a similar game, was allowed by the European nations to compliment the Christian faith without a demurrer. But we cannot show similar courtesy to Mrs Besant, without materially encouraging the growth of those evils which have hitherto retarded the progress of our country in civilisation. Christianity in Europe is an exotic plant utterly unconnected with the surroundings which favoured its birth. It no doubt tended at one time, in its new home, to develop some of the worst features of other man worshipping religions. The general good sense, however, of the European nations, has, since the Lutheran Reformation, kept it so stunted and dwarfed, that an occasional shower of verbal compliments cannot revive its power for mischief very materially.

The case of Hinduism is very different. Hinduism is a vague word which embraces every stage in the development of the theocratic art, from the faith of the rain seekers of the early Vedic age to the abominable doctrines and practices of the *Bamachárís*, *Kula Yógís*, *Aághoris* and *Bauls* which represent the utmost extravagance the craft is capable of. When an English lady of decent culture professes to be an admirer of Tantric mysticism and Krishna worship, it behoves every well wisher of the country to tell her plainly that sensible men do not want her eloquence for guiding what is rotten in every kind of political régime, spiritual or temporal, the favourable opinion of a witness expected to be hostile, generally goes a great way in determining the judgment of the mob. When a lady who Christian by education and birth says, that Hinduism is the best religion in the world, nothing more is necessary to confirm the bigotry of our misguided countrymen. At any rate, the utmost use is sure to be made of such testimony by such advocates of the Hindu faith as are interested in social enterprises that can prosper only by the continuance of the blind adherence of our countrymen to those abominations which are a disgrace to the community.

Hinduism has, no doubt, like every other institution to be found in the world, a good side. It is, however, sheer folly to entertain exaggerated notions on the subject based on the copy-book effusions of the *Bhagvat Gita* or the so called philosophy of the *Upanishads*. Taken separately, or by themselves. But looked at in their connection with the previous and subsequent development of our theological system, we cannot certainly be very proud of their spirituality. In the beginning, all primitive cults promise to bring about tangible good. With regard to the Vedic sacrifices, M Barth very correctly observes:

"If we possess only a very imperfect knowledge of the acts of sacrifice, we know better what ideas were attached to it. In the grossest sense, Sacrifice is a mere bargain. Man needs things which the god possesses, such as rain, light, warmth, and he asks; while the god is hungry and seeks offerings from man: there is giving and receiving on both sides.

The liturgical formulæ are at times very clear in this respect for example, Tait. Sanhita 456 — 'Does he wish to do harm to an enemy? Let him say to Surya Strige such a one, and afterwards will I pay thee thy offering. And Surya desiring to obtain the offering strikes him."

The primitive religions must, in this manner, promise to render tangible good service. The savage can have no idea of immortality, transmigration, Nirvana or salvation. He wants a good harvest and an abundance of milk and honey. To make him appreciate the value

of Nirvana, Shradha and Nishkama Dharma, he must be *educated* to that end. That is the true origin of the Upanishads. However, if the Upanishads have a charm for Mrs. Besant, she is quite welcome to proclaim her views on the subject. But the Upanishads do not form any part of the religion of the Hindus as it is found in their every day life. In actual practice they are either Sivites or Saktas or Krishna-worshippers. In fact, abomination worship is the main ingredient of modern Hinduism, and we, therefore, ask Mrs. Besant to study the subject a little more carefully than she yet appears to have done. If she will follow our advice, she may, provided she is sincere, herself admit sooner or later that the course she is now pursuing is fraught with mischief. Before she applauds Hinduism in the hearing of unthinking audiences, she should first define the form of faith which she means by the word. If she is for the worship of Krishna, she should tell her hearers whence she has formed her idea of that deity. Is it the heroic charioteer of Arjuna as painted in the Mahabharata, or is it the Krishna of the Bhagavata and the Bramha Vaivarta Puran?

In an authorised edition of some of the lectures delivered by her at Adyar, Madras, in December 1893, Mrs. Besant speaks admiringly of even Tantric symbols. The dogmas propounded by her about these and certain other dark sides of the Hindu faith, seem to say that she goes the whole hog. It is true that she herself has more than once repudiated such a view. But she has never explained definitely what parts of our religion she approves of, and what features of it she condemns.

The sum and substance of her recent harangues may, we think, be enunciated by the following propositions:—

1. That we should revive our ancient spirituality.
2. That the existence of evil is for the good of mankind.
3. That we should learn to subjugate and overcome evils by not trying to remove them, as the European" nations are trying to do, "but by striving to get rid of our desires."
4. That we should not pay much attention to politics.
5. That we should not try to develop the manufacturing industries of our country, but should devote ourselves chiefly to agriculture, and to intellectual or spiritual pursuits.
6. That the Hindu caste system is a very good one, and that the higher classes of the Hindus should be occupied with only study and devotion, without a thought about the improvement of the political or material condition of the country.

That we should give up the study of English and Western science, and devote ourselves exclusively to the cultivation of Sanskrit, making our heads against the stone wall of Panini, or suffering ourselves to be wildered for ever in the barren and unprofitable speculations of the Nyaya, the Mimansa and the Vedanta.

Though clothed in mystifying garbs, there cannot be the least doubt that these are the main ideas which Mrs. Besant, professing to be a friend and admirer of our nation and our religion, seeks to inculcate. If that is so, her attitude clearly demands a closer circumspection than it has yet received. Her predecessor, Madame Blavátsky, was suspected of having been a Russian spy. A careful study of Mrs. Besant's recent utterances may lead many to the conclusion that she has identified herself with the interests of the cotton spinners of Manchester. The very hinting of such a suspicion may be regarded by her admirers as something amounting to blasphemy. To them we have nothing to say. We appeal only to the sober judgment of those who have not been carried away by her words of flattery, or the charm of her eloquence. To show that we have not misrepresented her preaching, we give below her *ipsissima verba*:—

"*Land in India was going out of cultivation*, and there was a growing poverty among the people. Was not the struggle for life growing harder than it was fifty years ago? Were not people *having to work for longer hours*, and was not life becoming a greater struggle for existence than it used to be? And if that was so, the best way to turn the tide would be to give up the Western ideal of luxury and to live in the simple fashion of the East, having enough of wholesome food, sufficient clothing, and necessary furniture, and devoting more of their time to intellectual and spiritual pursuits; *for against the brain of the West, as applied to the production of things for material use, they had no chance*. But if they chose the *intellectual and the spiritual*, everything would aid them in their choice, and by so doing—by following in the foot-steps of the ancient Rishis—they would be giving to the Indian people a future among the nations of the earth, and India would again be the mother of nations, and in her greatness the world would rejoice."

The italics are ours and deserve special notice. With this we leave the passage as it is, without a word of comment.

Letter to the Editor.

DR. SAMBHU CHUNDER MOOKERJEE.

SIR,—Permit me to thank Mr. F. H. Skrine for his highly interesting sketch of the life of Dr. Sambhu C. Mookerjee in the *National Magazine* and which you intend to reprint in your paper. Dr. Mookerjee was one of the noblest sons of India. No man was freer from prejudices than he. He strove earnestly to bring about a good understanding between the Hindus and the Mussulmans. If in course of conversation any of his friends or acquaintances indulged in any remark in disparagement of the Mussulmans, Dr. Mookerjee instantly interrupted him and arguing the matter convinced him of his intolerance and prejudice and caused him to withdraw the offending remark. He knew that the dislike manifested by the average Hindu for the Mussulman had ignorance of the Mussulman character at its bottom. Hence, in *Reis and Rayyet*, he always strove to give short accounts of distinguished Mussulmans. I remember the surprise he caused to his readers by publishing an account of Nawab Ikbal-ud-dowlah or "the Wandering Nawab" as he styled him, in the first year of the journal. No body knew anything of this Mussulman nobleman whose name had appeared in the honour's list of the year. Dr. Mookerjee published almost a full account of the Nawab and his travels. That account was so circumstantial that the Nawab himself, when he read it at Bagdad, was surprised at anybody in India knowing him so well. When the Nawab died after some years, his will was especially translated for *Reis and Rayyet* and published in it. It was a most interesting document and did much to explain the views entertained by Mussulman noblemen of many questions with which we are confronted in this life.

One other feature of Dr. Mookerjee's character was his desire to seek out struggling merit and to encourage it in every way. He believed that we have very few writers among us. Hence, whenever he saw any piece of good writing in the correspondence columns of any of the dailies or weeklies, he made earnest efforts for finding out the writer. In this way he often succeeded in opening a correspondence with young men who were still at College or who had just left College and entered the world. To encourage and advise them, ascertain the books they had read and intended to read, was with him a pleasing task. He took greater delight in corresponding with these young friends of his than with the most famous of publicists or scholars of Europe or America or the most influential officials in India or England. The circumstances under which I first made the acquaintance of Dr. Mookerjee would happily illustrate my observations. I was then a very young man who having left College with a degree was editing the diglot weekly called the *Halisahar Patrika*. It was exactly of the size of the weekly *Hindoo Patriot*; four of its formes consisting of articles, paragraphs, and summary of news in Bengali, and two of articles and paragraphs in English. I edited the English portion of the paper and occasionally contributed to the Bengali columns also. Those were the days of Sir George Campbell, when every writer in the native press was obliged to do his best for opposing the many strange innovations of that radical ruler who, on his accession to the Lieutenant-Governorship of Bengal, resembled very much a bull in a China shop, now knocking against the Board of Revenue and its old practices, now remodelling the Subordinate Executive Service, now falling foul of the very University. I wrote

The Indian Association for the Cultivation of Science.

210, Bow-Bazar Street, Calcutta.

(Session 1894-95.)

Lecture by Babu Syamadas Mukherjee, M. A., on Thursday, the 21st Inst., at 4 P. M., *Subject*. Invariant Theory of Conics (continued).

Admission Fee, Rs. 4 for Physics, and Rs. 4 for Chemistry; Rs. 6 for both Physics and Chemistry; Rs. 4 for Physiology; Rs. 4 for General Biology; Rs. 6 for complete course of Physiology and Biology. The charge for a single lecture is 2 Annas.

MAHENDRA LAL SIRCAR, M.D.,

March 16, 1895. *Honorary Secretary.*

a few articles that were slightly above the average, showing up this policy of restless and mischievous activity. Dr. Mookerjee, having read those articles, enquired into their authorship and having traced them to me, asked me, through a common friend, to see him. I was greatly flatteted by the invitation and lost no time in waiting upon him. I had been known to him slightly in my College days. "For therefore, was not altogether a stranger when I saw him." He received me very kindly and from that day was formed a friendship which lasted till his death. I used to see him almost every week, and the conversations I had with him on the topics of the day enabled me to write out the leaders and paragraphs of my paper with the greatest ease.

Dr. Mookerjee's memory was a veritable store house of information. No man was better read in the history of journalism in England. He knew every writer of eminence in the English Press. His spirit of inquisitiveness may best be illustrated by mentioning that he underwent great trouble for obtaining a sight of the *Edinburgh Review*, old series, *viz.*, that of 1850, which lived for two or three months only and which was edited by Wedderburne, afterwards Lord Loughborough. No man had a larger stock of anecdotes relating to the literary men of the latter half of the eighteenth and the nineteenth centuries. Jeffrey and his coadjutors of the *Edinburgh Review*, and the writers of the *Quarterly* and the *Westminster Review*, he knew familiarly. His memory was wonderful. I often took the trouble of verifying, after a conversation with him, the facts and incidents he related, by a reference to the books he had mentioned. I never found that he was wrong or incorrect in a single instance. Less than a year before his death, an article appeared in *Reis and Rayyet* reviewing Sir Alexander Miller's lecture, at the Chaitanya Library, on the origin of the jury in England. Sir Alexander had made some gross errors in speaking of the celebrated trial of the seven Bishops, and had mentioned Hallam and Macaulay as his authorities. Macaulay's account, it was pointed out, was totally different, while Hallam has not more than one sentence on this case and that sentence gives no details. Sir Alexander had the candour to admit his errors although he sought to lessen their effect by saying that his general argument was unaffected by them. The Law Member further said that he had not read Macaulay for the last 40 years; and that at Simla, the summer capital of the empire, he had not a copy of the *State Trials* to refer to for verifying a statement which *Reis and Rayyet* had made. This provoked the writer in *Reis and Rayyet* to say, in a rejoinder, that if the Law member could not command such an ordinary book as the *State Trials* which every lawyer must have in his library, what would he do when any international question came up before him, occasioning a reference to Grotius or Puffendorf or Vattel? This remark was seized by a defender of Sir Alexander Miller in the native press who, judging of the conductors of *Reis and Rayyet* by his own standard, said that for giving an appearance of learning to their writings they very frequently named authors whom they had never read. I saw Dr. Mookerjee at a time when he with a few friends was exceedingly merry on this remark of his critic. Years ago I myself had read both Grotius and Vattel and had several conversations with him on both those authors. Only a few months ago Dr. Mookerjee had referred to his Vattel for testing the correctness of a quotation which a learned counsel had made in a written address of his client in a very important case. The quotation, it was found, had been made at second-hand, for Vattel's opinion was quite the reverse of that which was attributed to him by the learned Counsel. The charge, therefore, of the critic about Mookerjee's never having read Grotius and Puffendorf and Vattel caused us all sincere merriment.

In speaking of my deceased friend I can never stop. But stop I must to-day, for I have run out the limits I had proposed to myself. I beg to close with the suggestion that if a respectable volume containing extracts from Dr. Mookerjee's correspondence, and from his writings, both published and unpublished, be brought out, it cannot fail to be highly interesting. Yours &c.,

Calcutta, March 12, 1895. BHARGAVA.

THE PILGRIMAGE TO MECCA.

The following letter is published in the Bombay papers.

In the issue of the *Times of India* of the 22nd ultimo, there appears a report of Mr. Earnest Hart's speech which he recently made in Hyderabad, complaining of neglect on the part of the Turkish authorities to make proper sanitary arrangements at Kamran, Mecca, and certain other towns of Arabia, and concluding that such neglect, etc., exposed the *Hajis* to fearful mortality. I visited the holy places in 1892, and my experience being very different, I trust, in the interest of fair play, you will be pleased to give publicity through your widely read paper to the following account:

I reached Kamran with my family of three females and one baby, in the beginning of April. It was the year 1892 or 1309 *Hijri*. Kamran is a sandy island, high above the sea level, and enjoying a dry and salubrious climate. As soon as our steamer cast anchor a number of large *prows* were observed to be in motion When they came along side, I learnt, from inquiries of the prowmen and some old *Hajis* that were on board our steamer, that during the pilgrimage season twenty of such *prows* are always under the orders of the Turkish authorities, kept in readiness to land the *Hajis*, as they come, and their goods. They are in Government pay. So we got into a *prow*, and came with our goods on shore, and had not a pie to pay. The prowmen might accept *bakshish*, but I did not see any one paying it. Immediately a number of *hammals* or porters seized our goods, and bade us follow. We soon reached our lodgings, *i.e.*, the buildings called *arshes*, which the Turkish Government has got constructed for our temporary sojourn on the island. There is a large number of these *arshes*. Each is 50 feet long, 30 feet wide, and the central part of the roof, which is tapering, is 26 feet from the ground, while the walls supporting it are 14 feet high all round. I, who had three females with me, and a baby, got space allotted to me 12 feet long and 6 feet wide, and enclosed it with sheets of cloth and matting. Families live in these *arshes* in two parallel rows, leaving a pathway in the middle all along, nowhere less than 6 feet wide. Since I had heard a great deal previously of the miserable accommodation the Turkish Government allowed the pilgrims in Kamran, I measured these distances, and have got them noted down in a book. In fact, I kept a diary during my journey to Mecca and back, and mean to give the accounts in the form of a book to the public some day. The *arshes* are thatched bamboo structures, but withal strong and durable. I was surprised to find that though it was the beginning of April, the mornings were pleasantly cool, evenings a little cooler, while the nights were very cool. It was only at midday that one might find it rather warm, and only outside the *arsh*. Inside it was pleasant. These *arshes* have been so constructed that between every four of them there is an open square, each side of which is fully a hundred feet long. We fellow passengers were about 800 in all; and sixteen of these *arshes* were given us for residence. One who has seen the place cannot but laugh at those who complain in India about want of accommodation in Kamran for the pilgrims. I subsequently learnt that it is a rule to give sixteen *arshes* to the passengers of every steamer. Two servants are attached to each *arsh*, who sweep it, light it, and bring fuel and distribute it among the pilgrims. Camp-light is provided in a sufficient degree, and kerosine oil is used for the purpose. As for fuel, it is always more than enough, and quite a number of us used to sit up till midnight outside our *arsh*, chanting *maulud*, with a fire blazing of our surplus fuel to keep us warm. There are a number of closets separate for males and females at a reasonable distance from the *arshes*, which are cleared daily.

We eat our own food in Kamran. The Turkish authorities do not give any. Everything fresh can be had on the island, though dear. As for water, it is brought on asses' backs from some distant place beyond Kamran, and every individual gets two pots in the morning and two more in the evening, altogether a little more than three Indian *seers* per head. Besides this the sea is hard by, and one can get any amount from there for bathing and washing purposes. It is to be noted that the *arshes* have been so erected, that the one I lived in, though it was the farthest *arsh* but one from the sea, the intervening distance was about 135 yards only. Indeed, many pilgrims used to go and bathe in the sea daily. The water of the sea is so clear that if a coin falls to the bottom, one can see it from the surface, for there is no fouling there of the foreshore.

Kamran has one French head Doctor, who comes every evening and asks almost every pilgrim separately if he has any complaint to make against the *arsh khadims*, or about the quality or quantity of water, &c., that he gets. There are besides these a number of inspectors or overseers to assist him in the work of general attendence. For every sixteen *arshes* there is a hospital under by a doctor. Our hospital doctor was also a Frenchman. Un-

quarantine rules the pilgrims arriving from India must stay ten days in Kamran, and those from Java five days only. The reason is that the Turks, like other Europeans, especially the French, think India to be a hot-bed of cholera and other contagious diseases. During this period, out of about 800 pilgrims that we were, having been fellowpassengers by one and the same steamer, only one baby died of fever and one man got diarrhœa, but recovered. It was currently reported that he had too freely partaken of some dried Indian fish that he had brought along with him from home.

The inspectors are some Turks and the others Arabs, while the *khadines* are all Arabs. Both the inspectors and *khadines*, though the latter served in a humble capacity, were born gentlemen. I believe there are special orders from the authorities to be very gentle to the meek Indian. We never heard any harsh language from them nor had any of us to use such language to them.

The police arrangements are adequate, and the superior officers of the different departments have a number of clerks to assist them.

This is how the fees are collected. A day before the quarantine period should be over, the inspectors come and ask a respectable looking pilgrim in each *arsh* kindly to inquire who can and who cannot pay the fees. The next day such pilgrim goes out with the amount collected, and pays it to the cashier in his office, and also informs him how many cannot pay. The fee is Rs. 10 per head, and not Rs. 15. While almost all the Java pilgrims do pay it, about two-thirds of the Indian pilgrims, it must be acknowledged to our shame, and many of them, in spite of their ability in that behalf, declare themselves *miskins* or paupers. They are not, however, required, if they cannot pay Rs. 10, to pay what proportion they can. The pauper males are desired to fall in and numbered, while the pauper females have not to undergo even this formality. No search whatsoever is made to ascertain the truth of their assertions. Respectable Indian pilgrims do pay, and curse their lying brethren. The Bengalees are bad in this respect, and the Sindhis are worse. At the time I am speaking of, out of about a hundred Sindhi pilgrims who had some three hundred rupees each, none paid. The *hammals* and all are in the pay of Government, and the pilgrims enjoy their services *gratis*. During the remaining days, it is not to be supposed that the non-paying pilgrims are refused accommodation, or in any manner not treated as well as their neighbours.

In Kamran out of about 800, only one baby died as said above. From Kamran to Jeddah, there was no sickness among us. When we reached the latter place, some large *Kafilas* had come in from other parts, and so we were about 3,000 persons going together to Mecca. It was reached in Ramazan, and about 100,000 pilgrims had already gathered there. I with my family stayed in Mecca all the time till *Haj*. The average death rate *per diem* was no more than three only out of a permanent population of some 80,000 souls, and 100,000 new arrivals. This I can say with confidence, for every dead body before burial is brought into the *Haram* and numerous persons are there at all times of day and night saying prayers and performing *tawaf*. By *Haj* time there was an assemblage of about 600,000 persons. The Shami-*Kafila*, the Misri-*Mahmil*, and the one from Constantinople encamp outside the city. The climate of Mecca is very dry and enervating. I and my family used to enjoy there very good health. The houses in general are lofty, many-storied structures, on sides and summits of hills. The streets, though narrow, are daily swept like those of Bombay, morning and evening, and the rubbish is taken out to a distance and burnt. There is no bad smell, except in some localities inhabited by Bengalis, Bokharis, and the like. The Arabs are very cleanly and live in spacious houses furnished after the European fashion. By the *Haj* time even the death-rate did not perceptibly increase. I was four days in Medina, and never saw a single corpse. In Mina I stayed three days. I did not there see a corpse but heard that about ten persons in all had died during the three days. All pilgrims (600,000) were then necessarily in Mina. After my return from Medina to Mecca I stopped at the latter place for a month more. The death-rate appeared to be about the same as stated above. Then I left for India. While returning we had about 700 persons on board the steamer, and by the time we arrived at Bombay, I heard that one person had died and his body thrown into the sea.

At Mina the *Badies* take away many of the slaughtered animals to their abodes in the desert, and dry and eat the meat. Pilgrims from all countries, excepting India, eat of the fresh meat. The Indian pilgrims, as a rule, abstain from it from groundless fear. I did not follow their example. About a fourth part only goes into the trenches that have been made for the purpose. They are very deep, and one cannot from the surface see the slaughtered animals at the bottom. These trenches are on the outskirts of the town. When the sacrifices are over, the trenches are filled up with sand.

In both Mecca and Medina there is plenty of water. Any one can go and fetch it from the stream, or buy it from the water men, called *saggas* there. One of these may be hired to give water to you at your house and he will give about four Indian *masauks* of water daily for a rupee or two per month. In Medina water is still more plentiful. In the vicinity of every halting station there are wells, and pilgrims do not suffer there from want of water. Again, it is absurd to talk of sanitary arrangements at these stations, for they are one and all on sandy plains of vast extent. Moreover a large stream of water runs hard by two of these stations. There are no permanent inhabitants dwelling about them, and pilgrims do not stop at them longer than half-a-day.

Bodies are never left to lie on the road even while cholera is raging. and [illegible], all the Turkish troops in and about the district, besides the police, are employed to remove and inter them

Mr. Hart has prudently abstained from objecting to Zemzem water. All through my stay in Mecca, which was for months, I used, like many others, to drink Zemzem water every morning *bellyful*, and I affirm that the habit made me stout. The well is within the *Haram* premises in Mecca, and has been built up from the very bottom to a height not less than five feet above ground with marble. All round the well there is a marble pavement extending to some distance from it, and those who drink the Zemzem water there or bathe with it, do so on the pavement, so that not a drop that falls on the ground can find its way back into the well. The Arabs in general have much veneration for this water, and ascribe to it many medicinal properties, and the people of Mecca and its vicinity have certain men called there Zemzemis in regular pay to supply their families with a quantity of the water daily to be used as a tonic. It was in 1893, *i. e.*, the year after my return to Bombay, that cholera raged in Mecca and carried off many pilgrims. A friend of mine, who had been on a visit to the holy place the same year, brought on his return a quantity of Zemzem water, and gave me a part of it. I drank it for some days, and was none the worse for having done so.---Yours, &c.,

March 1. MAHMOOD ALI BRELVI.

THE GOOD SLEEP OF A BAD MAN.

IN a certain prison that we all have heard of, lay a convict upon his narrow iron cot. He was to be hanged the next morning. Yet he lay there covered by a rough blanket, sleeping as quietly and soundly as a tired schoolboy. Occasionally the guard in the passage outside peered between the bars of the cell, only to find his charge breathing deeply and regularly. This man had violated the law prohibiting murder ; yet he had not violated the physical laws governing his own body, and Nature rewarded him as if he had been the noblest of his race.

That same night, less than a mile away, a rich man tossed and tumbled upon his luxurious bed. He was a good and useful member of society, yet he could not sleep. And, worse still, this happened to him every night. Sleep—that blessing which the Psalmist says, "God giveth his beloved," was practically a stranger to his man. What ailed him ? The tortures of conscience ? Want of money ? The fear of enemies ? Nothing of the sort. Then why didn't he sleep as well as the murderer ? You would like to know ? Right, let us look into the matter.

"I got no sleep at night ; I would lie for hours tossing about. In the morning I was worse tired than when I went to bed."

Thus writes Mrs. Eliza Mathews, of I, North Road, Burnt Oak, Edgware, near London, under date of September 22nd, 1892. Just two years before this time she lost her health. A foul taste in the mouth, loss of appetite, and great distress after eating were among the first things she complained of. She craved food at times, and fancied she could eat heartily, yet when the very dishes she had asked for were set before her she turned from them as though they were filth from the gutter. Her skin grew sallow, her eyes yellow, and she had a constant pain at her chest, sides, and between her shoulders. Her bowels were constipated and the least exertion set her heart thumping as if it must jump up into her mouth. At such times it was as much as ever that she could get her breath. She got so thin and weak she was no good for work. She couldn't walk out doors without stopping to rest every few rods almost

The doctor did what he could for her, all any doctor could do. At first he said he thought her illness was owing to the smells of the farmyard. This looked possible. Even the smell of violets has made strong men turn pale and faint dead away. Yet the doctor was wrong. If he had been right, she would have got better when the family left the farm at Bentley Priory and went to live at Burnt Oak. But she was not improved by the change of air ; she grew worse and worse.

"In May, 1887," says Mrs. Mathews "I went over to Chelmsford to visit my aunt, Mrs. Troughton. She told me of the good Mother Seigel's Curative Syrup had done her when she had indigestion and dyspepsia. She bought me a bottle, and I began taking it. After a few doses I felt relief. I kept on taking it, and ***in two months I was strong and well as ever.*** My husband and friends were astonished, yet I assured them that Seigel's Syrup had done it. Yours truly, (Signed) ELIZA MATHEWS."

The point is plain enough. The convict slept soundly because he was a healthy man, although he was a wicked one. Our rich friend rolled about all night because his nerves were unstrung by the state of his stomach. Our correspondent was prostrated by the same thing—indigestion and dyspepsia. The remedy named cured her because it has that power. The reason remains a secret with the roots and herbs from which it is made. Yet so long as it drives away disease and gives us back our health and strength, who cares for its mystery? Results, not arguments, are what we all want.

"Burnt Oak House, Edgware, September, 22nd, 1892. I have known Mrs. Mathews for some seven years, and remember her long and lingering illness. She informs me that Mother Seigel's Curative Syrup cured her, after medical and other means failed. Mrs. Mathews is a lady of respectability, and her word can be implicitly relied upon. You can use this statement in any way you may think proper. Yours truly, (Signed) T. H. HOUSE, Grocer and General Provision Dealer Burnt Oak Stores, Edgware."

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42.	Kumar Radha Prosad Roy ...	25
43	Kumar Dinendra Nuram Roy ...	25
44.	Babu Pashupatty Nath Bose ...	25
45.	Kumar Doulat Chandra Roy ...	25
46.	Babu Guru Prosonno Ghose ...	25
47.	Raja Sir Sourindra Mohan Tagore, C.I.E.	25
48.	Raya Jotindra Nath Chowdhury ...	25
49	Babu Rama Nath Ghose... ...	25
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65.	„ Aukhoy Kumar Ghose ...	20
66.	Moulvi Imadd Ali ...	20
67.	Rai Shib Chunder Nundy Bahadar ...	20
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71.	Moulvi Syed Ashrufuddin Ahmed, Khan Bahadur	17-8
72.	T. Inglis, Esq, C.S.	16
73.	A. H. [illegible] Esq.	16
74.	R. F. [illegible] Esq., C.S. ...	16
75.	The [illegible] Moulvi Sirajul Islam Khan	16
76	Moulvi Sirajuddeen	15
77.	[illegible] Hasan, Esq., ...	15
78.	Babu D. Phillips, C.S. ...	10
79.	L. N. [illegible]	10
80.	[illegible] some dr[illegible] all similarly ...	10
81.	[illegible] home. [illegible] Bose ...	10
82.	Arat[illegible] [illegible] Mohun Bose ...	10
83.	„ Lanai Lal Khan	10
84.	Moulvi Syud Akrami Hossain ...	10
85.	Moulvi Aziz Ahmad	10
86.	Rai Kanyalal Dey Bahadoor ...	10
87.	H. Holmwood, Esq.	10
88.	Babu Hurry Mohun Chunder ...	10
89.	Baboo Chakkanlal Roy	5
90.	„ Saradaprasad Ghose	5

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(PRINCE & PEASANT)

WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

VOL. XIV. CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, MARCH 23, 1895. WHOLE NO. 667.

CONTEMPORARY POETRY.

MIDNIGHT MUSIC.

SILENCE and darkness rested o'er the town ;
The midnight clock had tolled its solemn numbers,
When, like some blissful strain from heaven sent down,
Broke music on the quiet of our slumbers.

Scarcely yet conscious, did the drowsy ear,
Drinking in tones seraphic in their seeming,
Convey them to the soul entranced to hear,
And wove them in the fabric of its dreaming

Forgotten were the shadows of the night,
And music shed a glory o'er the hour,
And sombre darkness grew with joy bedight,
Beneath the influence of its magic power.

The infant, slumbering by its mother's breast,
Waked at the sound, and waking smiled a blessing,
Then sank again serenely to its rest,
Its tiny hands its mother's face caressing.

The sickness-bowed, to whom the weary time
Lagged dreary on, replete with bitter sadness,
I' ard the sweet note that filled the air, sublime,
And felt a thrill run through his frame of gladness.

The fevered pulse a healthy tone assumed,
Harmonious throbbing to the music's measure
And the glazed eye 'came momently illumed
With radiant tokens of a present pleasure.

The widow's tears a moment ceased to flow ;
She hailed the blessed melody a token
Of promise to her hopes, a mental bow,
A note from spheres where unions are unbroken.

Bidding her heart its bitter strife to cease
And from the future joyful hope to borrow ;
Quelling the raging waves of grief to peace,
And soothing, like a charm, the preying sorrow.

To the close-curtained chamber of the bride
The music notes on airy wing ascended,
Blessed the fond pair harmoniously allied,
And with their aspirations sweetly blended.

But, all too soon did flee that 'witching strain—
Fled 'mid the darkness thus made doubly dreary ;
And the still solemn hours rolled on again
Their sluggish wave more tedious and weary.

WEEKLYANA.

INDIA is not to be weighted with any portion of the cost of the Royal Commission on Opium. It was at first decided to distribute it equally between the Indian and the Home Revenues. But wiser and juster counsels prevailing, India has been set free of the burden. The last decision, the *Standard* says, is generally approved in the House of Commons. A number of members on the Opposition Benches intend, however, to draw attention on the Supplementary Estimates to the waste of money involved in the inquiry.

***

THE ever-watchful eye on India of Lord Stanley of Alderley could not blink at the injustice of the excise duty on cotton. We read in the papers by the mail :

"As a corollary to the recent discussion in the House of Commons on the Indian import duties, Lord Stanley of Alderley intends on an early day to ask the representatives of the Government in the Upper House, how they justify the protection given to Manchester cotton goods by the imposition of 5 per cent. excise duty on cloths woven in India from Manchester yarns above 20 counts, which will have paid 5 per cent. import duty, and how much net revenue is expected from this excise duty ; also whether, this step having been taken on behalf of cotton, the Government will take a similar step on behalf of the silk industry, by placing duties on foreign silk stuffs imported into England."

***

FROM time to time, the costliness of the India Office is brought into prominence, but those in immediate charge never admit it. On February 22, in the House of Commons,

"Mr. Hanbury asked the Secretary of State for India. Whether it is the fact that, while the Colonial Office costs British taxpayers about 40,000*l*., the Foreign Office about 67,000*l*., and the Treasury about 60,000*l*., annually, the India Office alone, besides the expenses of government in India, costs about 1,300,000*l*., a year to the India Exchequer ; to whom are the detailed accounts of the India Office presented ; and whether he will lay upon the table an estimate of the annual expenses, salaries, &c., of the India Office similar to those showing the cost of the other departments of the State.

Mr. Fowler : I cannot admit that there is any analogy between the expenses of the offices to which the hon. member refers and the expenses of the India Office, which include the Civil and Military, Financial, Political, Judicial, and Public Works Departments of the whole Indian empire. The accounts are presented to and are audited by the auditor of Indian Home Accounts, and when audited are laid before Parliament. An estimate of the cost of the India Office is annually laid on the table of the House."

***

THEY are for a railway to the top of Mont Blanc. Commencing at the Miage Ravine, above Saint Gervais, it is proposed to carry the line through a tunnel 7,400 mètres in length. From this point a vertical shaft, 2,800 mètres in height, will bring the traveller up to the summit. The period of construction is calculated at ten years, and the expenditure at 9,000,000 frs.

***

A. M. ANDRÉE proposes to attempt the North Pole in a balloon, to be constructed in Paris, at a cost of 80,000 frs.

***

THE Brazilian Government has consented to pay to France 500,000 frs. as an indemnity to the families of M. Buette and other French subjects shot during the revolution.

Subscribers in the country are requested to remit by postal money orders, if possible, as the safest and most convenient medium, particularly as it ensures acknowledgment through the Department. No other receipt will be given, any other being unnecessary and likely to cause confusion.

IT is reported:

"Porous glass has been introduced into Paris. It admits air by fine holes which do not cause a draught and is quite transparent to light, so that its hygienic advantage over ordinary glass is considerable. A French doctor has also brought out a double pane by which the fresh air entering from below passes up between the two sheets of glass and out at the top into the room near the ceiling."

We remember to have read the discovery before. When will the new glass be imported into India? If it can keep out dust, it will be a boon, indeed!

***

AGAIN:—

"At 'Olympia,' in Paris, two American fire-eaters are attracting the attention of French scientific men. Long flames issue from their mouth and from the tips of their fingers without burning them. The secret of the fire would be useful to players of Mephistopheles, but the Americans guard it, and will not say whether it is some electrical or chemical effect. It is possible that they have found a volatile essence which blazes without burning them, or again they may employ the electric glows of Tesla."

Such feats have been exhibited in this country. It is many years, in our younger days, we remember to have seen a person stuffing his mouth with charcoal blow out flames and, on another occasion, a boy carry boiling oil on his hairless scap in an iron vessel. In the latter case, the metal was not in direct contact with the head. A thin bony substance separated it from the vessel. The Bhanumati jugglers who played several such tricks seem to have died out, for we see them not now, at least in this part of the country.

***

A HUSBAND obtained through the French courts a divorce of his wife. He widely circulated the proceedings to his relatives and friends. The divorced wife has sued the husband for libel assessing her damages at 2,000frs.

***

MRS. Betty Webster, of Aysgarth, North Yorkshire, long a widow, was 105 years old in February last, having been born on Feb. 25, 1790. She is in possession of all her faculties, and enjoys splendid health She is an out-pensioner of an almshouse.

***

AN old peasant woman named Irina Andrejewna Fedosova, hailing from Olonez, who is seventy years of age, exhibits marvellous power of memory. She can neither read nor write, but can recite by heart 19,000 folk-songs and poems. She was brought to the capital by a Russian littérateur, who, with the help of a colleague, has written down a large quantity of her treasure, and is preparing his rich find for the Press.

***

WE read:—

"M. Mer has observed that the weather affects the growth of trees as it does that of vegetables. In the dry summer of 1893 the firs of the Vosges grew less than usual both in height and diameter. A similar effect was produced by the exceptionally cold wet summer of 1888. The dry spring of 1892 only diminished the growth in length, and the dry autumn of 1887 only checked the growth in thickness. In short, there are good, bad, and middling years of growth, and M. Mer considers that foresters ought to study the matter in order to discover the conditions of weather which produce them."

***

THE Finance Minister presented his Budget for the next official year to the Supreme Legislative Council on Thursday last. It will be discussed next week. It takes into account the new taxes imposed early in the session, and there is no proposition to remit any. On the contrary, a special Fund is utilized in other ways. Here is the official summary of the Financial Statement, the figures being in thousands of Rx:—

"The accounts for 1893-94 have closed with a deficit of 1,547 being 246 better than anticipated last year. The accounts were made up at 1s 5d per rupee exchange, and include 1,061 charged for Railway Construction under Famine Insurance.

The statement then reviews the fluctuations of exchange during 1894-95, during which about seventeen millions sterling of remittance has been made at an average of 1s 3·09 pence exchange. This rate is adopted in making up the Revised Estimates for 1894-95, and also for the Budget Estimates for 1895-96

The Budget Estimates for 1894-95 showed a deficit of 302, but if the sterling expenditure had been brought to account at this lower rate, the deficit would have been 2,166. The Revised Estimates show a surplus of 990, giving an improvement, apart from exchange, of 3,156. Of this amount, Opium Revenue gives 931, due to higher prices, and the Opium expenditure is 610 short of estimate, owing to failure of crop. Customs duties give 930, of which 359 is due to the Cotton duties imposed in December, and the rest to moderation of original estimates, the import of silver especially having exceeded all anticipations. Improved Railway earnings give 351, and Excise 150. These items aggregate 2,972 but against them must be taken 304, interest paid in anticipation during loan conversion. The expenditure throughout is well within the estimates, and under Army the savings due to low prices have been more than enough to meet excess charges, 393 for British soldiers' pay, which is fixed at a sterling rate, and therefore increases as exchange falls, and 195 for Waziri Expedition. This last will cost a further sum of 90 in 1895-96

The statement then reviews the Customs legislation of 1894, showing that the total increase obtained is 3,083, namely, 1,628 by the Tariff of March 1894, and 1,455 by Cotton duties.

In preparing the Budget Estimates of 1895-96, the Government had to face the following position as compared with those of 1894-95 Increases of expenditure dependent on exchange, 2,504. cessation of temporary relief obtained last year by Provincial contributions and by reducing Civil and Military Works, 685, increased opium payments arising from necessity of enhancing the price paid to cultivators, 460. These added to last year's deficit give an amount of 3,951 to be made up. The Government get by diminution of interest payments due to conversion operation, 525, by better Customs Revenue, including Cotton Duties, 1,883, better Railway Revenue, 788, better Land Revenue, due partly to postponements from last year, 403 better Opium Revenue, 467, better Stamps and Excise Revenue, 192; numerous other differences, net, 69. These improvements produce a surplus of 376. A general increase is announced in the scale of sepoys' pay, to take effect on July 1st. For a hundred and ten thousand men this will cost 260 a year, and the charge adds 180 to new year's estimates. The charge is accepted as long foreseen, and now urgent. A sum of 150 is provided for military preparations due to disturbances in Chitral. These charges of 180 and 150 reduce the surplus of 376 to 46, which is the declared surplus in the Budget.

Under these circumstances the Famine Insurance Grant remains in abeyance in the same way as last year.

The statement proceeds to narrate the Loan Conversion proceedings, and announces that of 95,149 four per cent. debt, only 974 have been discharged, and 1,787 are outstanding for conversion or discharge The net saving to the Revenue Account is 420, but this amount is temporarily enhanced by discharge of loan not requiring immediate replenishment.

For capital expenditure by the State on Railways and Irrigation Works 4,400 are provided, and it is announced, with the usual reserve, that seventeen million sterling Council Bills will be drawn, being the same amount as in the current year, and that there will be no borrowing, except for the replacement of two million sterling temporary debt falling due in May.

In conclusion, the Government, while claiming to have made a full year's progress towards the restoration of the financial position, express their sense of the difficulties and anxieties which still surround it."

***

THE Municipal elections last Saturday passed off quietly. There was no unusual stir except in two or three polling stations. As many as eleven out of eighteen Wards in the town proper were uncontested In all the seven suburban Wards, there were more than two candidates for the honour of the Commissionership of Calcutta. The polling was concluded the same day, except in one Ward, but on the second day, the candidate who had the lowest number of votes retired, leaving those above him undisputed winners. We give below the names of the gentlemen who have been returned, as also of those who competed. The feature of the present election is that there have been several applications to Courts to disqualify candidates, both before and after the election. In Ward 25, Baboos Monilal Banerjee and Satis Chunder Ghose tried to disqualify each other. In Ward 18, attempts are being made to unseat one of the elected The defeated candidate has obtained a rule on him and the Corporation to show cause why the Chairman should not be directed to strike out the name of Mr Corkhill and substitute for it that of Baboo R. N. Chatterjee It is to be remarked that, as in previous years, the returned are chiefly men of law. There are 14 new comers. Old members are being replaced by new Of those who were elected when the present elective system was granted in 1876, that is in the Town proper excluding the added area, only seven continue to be on the Board.

WARD No. 1.

Babu Bhupendro Nath Bose.
Babu Pashupatty Nath Bose.

WARD No. 5.

Kumar Dinendro Narain Roy.
Babu Lal Behary Bysack.

WARD No. 6.

Babu Radha Churn Pal.
Dr. Bhuban Mohun Sircar.

WARD No. 7.

Babu Hurryram Goenka.
Babu Juggernath Khunnah.

WARD No. 8.

Moulvi Budruddin Hyder.
Babu Srinath Dutt.

WARD No. 9.

Babu Norendro Nath Sen.
Dr. Zahuruddin Ahmed.

WARD No. 12.

Mr. Patrick McGuire.
Babu Nobin Chand Boral.

WARD No. 14.

The Hon'ble Surendro Nath Banneiji.
Moulvi Ahmed, Khan Bahadur.

WARD No. 15.

Dr. Laurence Fernandez.
The Hon'ble Seraj-ul-Islam Khan Bahadur.

WARD No. 16.

Mr. J. G. Apcar.
Mr. W. H. Ryland.

WARD No. 23.

Babu Ramtarun Banneiji.
Babu Amulya Dhone Addy.

The following is the result of the voting in the different contested Wards :—

WARD No. 2.

Mr. N. N. Ghose	... 1159
Babu Chandi Lall Sing	... 1084
Dr. U. K. Dutt	... 557

WARD No. 3.

Babu Kally Nath Mitter	... 663
„ Akhoy Chunder Bose	... 609
Kumar Shushil Krishna Deb	... 341

WARD No. 4.

Babu Nolin Behary Sircar	... 850
„ Ram Churn Mitter	... 736
„ Jodunath Sen	757
„ Ram Lall Mitter	... *nil.*

WARD No. 10.

Mr. D. E. Cranenburgh	... 259
Babu Rash Behary Dass	... 311
„ Roj Chunder Chunder	... 447
„ Surendro Nath Dass	... 433

WARD No. 11.

Babu Ashutosh Dey	... 251
Dr. Jogendro Nath Ghose	... 603
Babu Deva Prosad Sarvadhikari	... 563

WARD No. 13.

Babu Mohini Mohun Chatterji	... 640
„ Benodebehary Banneijee	... 542
Moulvi Fazlul Rahman Khan	... 484

WARD No. 17.

Mr. G. T. Doucet	... 42
Mr. J. Ghosal	... 213
Mr G. C. Fair	... 85

WARD No. 18.

M. C. F. Deefoldts	... 61
Mr W Corkhill	... 57
Babu R. N. Chatterji	... 27

WARD No. 19

Babu Amrita Lal Ghose	... 235
Moulvi Agi Mahomed Musa	... 195
Mr. O'Brien	... 165

WARD No. 20

Moulvi Abdul Jawad	.. 164
Moulvi Saved Yusuf Ali	... 112
Mr. Aziz Ahmed	... 92
Babu Ram Churn Bose	... 98

WARD No. 21.

Babu Kanti Chunder Banneiji ...	... 306
Dr Sheik Bechu	... 290
Mr. D. Swinhoe	... 198

WARD No. 22

Babu Peeonath Mullick ...	... 680
Babu Jogendro Chunder Ghose	... 606
Mr. C. R. Dass	... 471

WARD No. 24

Mr. Braunfeld	114
Babu Surendra Nath Roy	92
„ Suttya Mohun Ghosal	... 58
Moulvi Zahid Rahim	53
Kumar Suttyabadi Ghosal	... 9
Prince Mirza Mahomed (withdrew)	

WARD No. 25.

Babu Satish Chunder Ghose	... 315
Rai Okhil Chunder Mukerji, Bahadur ...	... 206
Babu Moni Lal Banneiji	... 235

* *
* *

HALF of the encumbered estate of Pandra, in the District of Manbhum, which half was, in November 1878, brought under the operation of the Chota Nagpur Encumbered Estates Act, VI of 1876, as amended by Act V of 1884, has now been made over to the present holders Babus Shib Narain and Jagat Narain, sons of the late Babu Ananta Narain Singh.

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NOTES & LEADERETTES,

OUR OWN NEWS,

&

THE WEEK'S TELEGRAMS IN BRIEF, WITH OCCASIONAL COMMENTS.

COUNT Ito, Prime Minister, and Viscount Mutsu, Foreign Minister, proceeded to Simonseki to meet the Chinese peace plenipotentiaries. Mr. Foster, the American ex-Secretary of State, is there with the Viceroy Li-Hung Chang, who was received with all the honours due to his rank. Negotiations for peace have been opened. But a successful issue is much doubted at Yokohama owing to the military party being predominant in Japan. Notice has been given of a resolution in the Japanese Diet that the time for the conclusion of peace with China has not yet arrived. The other particulars about the war are :—

China has asked for the intervention of Russia and Germany to protect the integrity of her continental territory against the demands of Japan.

The Japanese captured off Newchang a Chinese gunboat with large quantities of war materials on board.

The *Times'* correspondent at St. Petersburg telegraphs that it is stated in that capital that the whole Russian Mediterranean Squadron has been ordered to the Pacific to be in readiness for any eventualities.

Prince Komatsu has been ordered to the front as Commander of the expeditionary army against China

The Emperor of China has written to King Humbert asking for the good offices of Italy to assist in the restoration of Peace with Japan

Arrangements are already in progress in London for raising a new Chinese gold loan in anticipation of the war indemnity to be paid to Japan.

Four Japanese warships are cruising off Taku stopping and searching all vessels for contraband of war.

Information has been received in London that the Japanese are blockading Tamsin, a Treaty port in North Formosa.

QUEEN Victoria arrived at Nice on the 15th, and was cordially welcomed by the French officials and the heads of the Municipality. The streets were gaily decorated and the citizens heartily cheered as she drove in an open carriage escorted by the military to the hotel at Cimiez.

ALTHOUGH Lord Rosebery was able to attend the Cabinet Council held on the 19th to settle the question of new Speaker, he has not yet recovered. He still suffers from persistent insomnia which greatly retards his convalescence and prevents him from attending any but most urgent business. At the meeting it was settled that Mr. Campbell-Bannerman could not be spared for the post. The question of a successor to the Mr Arthur Peel is still unsettled

It has been officially announced that the alarmist rumours concerning the health of Lord Rosebery and the necessity for his retirement based upon recent bulletins, are unfounded

MR. Fowler progresses favourably towards recovery, but is still confined to his bed.

ALTHOUGH the Amir's visit to England is uncertain, preparations for his receptiion have already begun. The Amir, however, does not go. One of his sons is preparing for the journey.

THE Secretary of War, in submitting the Army Estimates to the House of Commons, said that the army auxiliaries were steadily advancing in efficiency, and that the war in the Far East proved that Great Britain was working in the right direction with regard to organization and armament.

Mr. Campbell Bannerman also said it was proposed to increase the strength of the artillery by one horse and seven field batteries.

IN the House of Commons, on the 19th, the discussion of the question of the retention of Cyprus under British administration was renewed.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer, replying to the suggestions of some of the speakers, refused to burthen the British taxpayer by raising a loan for the purpose of buying the island outright. Sir W. Harcourt declared it had never been proposed to hand back Cyprus to Turkey, and that he would be sorry to hand anyone over to the control of Turkey.

Sir Edward Grey, Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, replying to Mr. Soape who suggested the enhancing of the Indian excise duty on proof spirits with a view of relieving the Budget, said that a sudden large increase in this form of taxation was not considered expedient.

Advices from Mush, where the Armenian Commission on the alleged Sassoun atrocities is still sitting, state that the Turkish authorities are throwing every possible difficulty in the way of the Commissioners, and seeking to stifle the enquiry. Yielding to the strong pressure by interested Powers, the Porte has agreed to send an Armenian dragoman to assist the foreign delegates on the Commission.

The Spanish Cabinet, under Senor Sagasta, has resigned owing to the Minister of War and the high military officials supporting certain subalterns who wrecked the offices of two Madrid newspapers and thrashed the Editors for reflections on the unreadiness of Spanish Officers to serve in Cuba.

The Spanish troops in the Philippines have routed the Malay Mussulmans in the Island of Mindinas, killing one hundred, including the Sultan and his son. The Spanish loss was seventeen killed and a hundred and ninety wounded.

In connection with the investigations that are being held regarding the bribery and blackmailing scandals, twenty-five of the highest police officials of New York have been indicted for corruption

The British Representative has presented an ultimatum to the Nicaraguan Government demanding the indemnity of £15,000 and the appointment of a Commission to arbitrate on the question of damages sustained by the British subjects who were expelled from the Mosquito Coast. Seven weeks are allowed by the ultimatum for the compliance of the British demands, to date from February 25

The *Standard* publishes an article reviewing the Indian Budget. It says that a general impression will be felt that the financial position is neither depressing nor altogether reassuring.

The official *Turkestan Gazette* publishes an article saying that the concessions made by Russia, in the Pamir region, prove the reality of her pacific sentiments and her firm desire to live at peace with Great Britain The article refers to the strong movement noticeable in Tashkend for acquiring the English language and English literature, and the *Gazette* regards this as fresh evidence of popular sympathy with England, due to the cementing of the friendship between the two countries on the occasion of the death of the Czar

Last week Sir Comer Petheram entertained Lord and Lady Elgin to dinner. Lady Elizabeth Bruce could not be present on account of an attack of measles, which has invaded many homes in Calcutta.

Small-pox continues gathering its victims. It is reported "Mme Koenig has unfortunately become a victim to it, having succumbed the very day after her performance at the 1st Saturday Club Concert. She had been vaccinated on the previous Wednesday." It has been remarked that vaccination has proved no prevention, if it is any, in the present epidemic We have reports of other cases where vaccination, instead of keeping it away, has brought on the disease. Those believing in its efficacy, in the absence of any true remedy or preventive, are consoled by the thought that but for it the attack would be more violent.

DEAFNESS. An essay describing a really genuine Cure for Deafness, Singing in Ears, &c., no matter how severe or long-standing, will be sent post free.—Artificial Ear-drums and similar appliances entirely superseded. Address THOMAS KEMPE, Victoria Chambers, 19, Southampton Buildings, Holborn, London.

The Evening Party in honour of the Hon'ble Mr. P. M. Mehta, has been fixed for Thursday next, at the Town Hall, at 9-30 P. M. Those desiring to attend, who have not been invited, will, according to the advertisement in another column, please write to the Secretary, Mr. H C. Mallik, to the Entertainment Committee, at 12, Wellington Square

A number of gentlemen also entertain Mr. Mehta to a dinner at the Town Hall, on Tuesday next.

After an amount of haggling, the Government of Bengal has accepted a part of an offer of Rs. 50,000 for two charitable institutions, from Babu Kailash Chandra Mookerjee, late of the Subordinate Judicial Service, whose retirement was hastened by the death of his only infant son. The Government gazettes its thanks to the Babu for his offer of Rs 28,000 for a dispensary in his native village of Belgoria, in the Nadia District.

Voltaire speaks, in *Candide*, of a dinner, in a public Restaurant of very little pretensions to respectability, in which chance had assembled half a dozen kings who, having lost their kingdoms, had been reduced to the lowest depth of poverty. The prince of mockers might have drawn upon his lively imagination for the account of that meeting of ex-kings and their conversation. But ex-kings, in the actual history of the world, are not that rare commodity which some may suppose. Here, at any rate, is an account to match. It is that of an ex-ruler who, having been thrown into the debtors' gaol, at last came out of it, renouncing his lost kingdom for the benefit of his creditors.

"In the old churchyard of St. Anne, in Dean Street, Soho, there is buried one who strutted his brief hour a King and yet died a pauper —Theodore of Corsica. The children of the district meet for play and pastime in the churchyard which has been thoughtfully laid out for their benefit In striking contrast to their democratic mirth, the church wall displays a tablet telling of Royal misfortune. It has a crown at the top, and beneath it an inscription written by Horace Walpole :—

Near this place is interred
Theodore, King of Corsica,
Who died in this parish Dec. 11, 1756,
Immediately after leaving the King's Bench Prison
by the benefit of the Act of Insolvency,
in consequence of which he registered
his Kingdom of Corsica
for the use of his creditors.

The grave, great teacher, to a level brings
Heroes and beggars, galley slaves and kings ;
But Theodore this moral learn'd ere dead—
Fate poured its lessons on his living head,
Bestowed a kingdom and deny'd him bread.

The monarch who is thus commemorated was the son of a West phalian, Baron de Newhoff and Stein, who had made a *mésalliance* and had been disowned by his family. Theodore was born in Paris in 1696, and, left an orphan, entered the household of the Duke of Orleans. Still young, he was attracted by the fame of Charles XII, of Sweden, and in his service saw a good deal of fighting. After a most adventurous career in many lands, he entered the service of the Emperor of Austria. It was here that his Corsican career opened The Corsicans had been vassals of the Genoese, but had been so tyrannically treated that they had risen in revolt, which had been pacified by the mediation of the Emperor. Theodore de Newhoff was instructed by the Emperor to inquire into the grievances of the Corsicans, with the result that, enchanted by his manners, they invited him to become their king. This, with the aid of the Sultan of Turkey he was able to accept. His reign lasted only six months, but in this time he displayed much activity : raising an army, drawing up a code of laws, remitting taxation, and coining money with his own head on it. He granted patents of nobility, and instituted a new order of knighthood, the Order of Deliverance. The fickle Corsicans were soon stirred up against him by the priests, the Genoese collected an army, and Theodore had to fly from one European capital to another In 1748 he came to utter smash. There were certain debts which the ex-monarch had royally contracted, and for want of a trifling £400 he was sent to the King's Bench prison, where he lay dependent on the charitable subscriptions of Horace Walpole and others. In June 1755 Theodore took advantage of the new Act of Insolvency, and liberally renounced at the Guildhall his Kingdom of Corsica for the benefit of his creditors, who, it is to be feared, never got much out of that particular asset. He remained within the liberties of the Fleet till December 1756, when he was brought in a chair to the house of a tailor at No. 5, Little Chapel Street, Soho. The tailor, for the sake of old acquaintance, took him in, and there in a few days he died. He would have had a pauper funeral, but an oilman in Compton Street declared that for once in his life he would have the honour of burying a king, and so defrayed its cost."

The assets placed by this royal debtor in the hands of the court, were such that the like of them have never fallen to the lot of any Insolvent Court to administer. Was any attempt made by the court to bring under its control what was offered so right royally, or was discretion regarded as the better part of valour and Corsica left unmolested?

THE Positivist-*Nachurs* has won his day. It is now the hour of the pure Positivist.

THE opening page of the *Calcutta Gazette* of last week, was dated the 6th March, 1895. It was in keeping with the orders commencing the next page. Maulvi Mahomed Abdul Kadir, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Howrah, is transferred to the head-quarters station of the 24-Parganas district; Moulvi Abdus Salam, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, on leave, is posted to the head-quarters station of the Howrah district; Babu Keder Nath Dutt, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, on furlough, is posted to the head-quarters station of the 24 Parganas district; and the Hon'ble Moulvi Abdul Jubbar, Khan Bahadur, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, 24-Parganas, is allowed leave, under articles 370 and 377 of the Civil Service Regulations, from the 21st March 1895, or such subsequent date as he may avail himself of it, up to the 30th July 1895. The orders mean more than meets the eye or the ear. Later in the day, the date was corrected into the 13th, but the orders remain the same.

BABU Kedarnath, we believe, replaces Khan Bahadur Abdul Jubbar, who is not allowed the satisfaction of retiring as Inspector General of Registration which he had rightly deserved. Moulvi Abdul Kadir comes in place of Khan Bahadur Dilwar Hossein Ahmed, who has the offer of the Inspector-Generalship. A physically unfit Deputy on sick leave, is gazetted for Howrah, while those with much higher claims and having the promise of transfers to Calcutta, are entirely thrown overboard.

OUR Monghyr correspondent writes:—

"An incident, rather of an uncommon nature, happened in the Deputy Magistrate's Court at Monghyr. The officer, a Bengalee Baboo, sentenced a prisoner to two and half years' imprisonment. The culprit all of a sudden became desperate and assaulted the Deputy Baboo with a stick which he had secreted on his person. The blow was not slight. He was instantaneously arrested and after being well beaten by the spectators, was handed over to the Police. But the Magistrate took the assault coolly. He remarked that the man was not in his senses, considering the place where he was going. The man, after being tried by the District Magistrate, was sentenced to another eighteen months' imprisonment."

Was there a medical examination before the second trial? Were the antecedents of the unfortunate man carefully enquired into? If it was not a case of at least temporary insanity, and if the man is not a notable *budmash*, we fear, it was the injustice of the sentence that moved him powerfully. The fact of the secreting of a club on his person is a circumstance that goes against the theory of insanity. The Deputy Magistrate must be held to have acted with true judicial calmness.

AT the last meeting of the Faculty of Arts, the following five Senators were elected to represent the Faculty on the Syndicate for the year 1895-96:—

Dr. Mahendralal Sircar, Dr. Ashutosh Mukerji, Mr. A. M. Bose, Mr. A. F. M. Abdul Rahman and Babu Kali Churn Banerjee.

DEATH has claimed Babu Ashutosh Mookerjee, Senior, M. A., B. L., Premchand Roychand scholar. He expired of anæmia, on the 22nd instant, in his temporary residence in Madan Mitter's Lane, Calcutta. Possessed of true Braman intelligence, Babu Ashutosh distinguished himself in the examinations of the Calcutta University. Passing what is called the Studentship Examination, he won the Premchand Roychand scholarship in the first year of its foundation, beating such competitors as Justice Gurudas Bannerjee and Babu Kali Churn Banerjee. Although he joined the High Court bar and gave ample promise of success, yet his attendance was very irregular and in a manner he gave up the law. He was a distinguished writer, and his articles in *Mookerjee's Magazine* and the *Calcutta Review* were much applauded. His review of Mr. Justice Markby's *Elements of Law* in the former periodical at once brought him to the fore front of Indian writers in English, and his celebrated article, in the latter, on the Rent Law of Bengal, made the *Englishman* speak of him as "a tower of strength" to the zamindari cause. Speaking of this article, Mr. C. H. Tawney said that it deserved all the praise that the *Englishman* had bestowed on it, and referring to the fact of Babu Ashutosh's having sat at his feet concluded with the observation—"The acorn I am supposed to have sown has expanded into a goodly oak" It will not do to conceal the fact that the deceased, after leaving college, led a very irregular life which soon told on his health. He suffered his splendid abilities to waste in consequence of his persistent worship of Bacchus. His intellectual efforts were spasmodic, as he was thoroughly unfitted for sustained work of any kind. For the three or four last years of his life, having given up the law entirely, he was a Professor in the Metropolitan Institution. He gave up his duty when he was physically unable to approach his altar. The example of his wasted life should operate as a beacon to those countrymen of his who prize the mere culture of the intellect to the neglect of that healthy conduct without which one cannot discharge the duties of life and command the esteem of fellow men.

The Indian Association for the Cultivation of Science.

210, Bow-Bazar Street, Calcutta.

(Session 1894-95.)

Lecture by Babu Syamadas Mukherjee, M. A., on Thursday, the 28th Inst., at 4 P. M., *Subject*. Invariant Theory of Conics (continued).

Admission Fee, Rs. 4 for Physics, and Rs. 4 for Chemistry; Rs. 6 for both Physics and Chemistry; Rs. 4 for Physiology; Rs. 4 for General Biology; Rs. 6 for complete course of Physiology and Biology. The charge for a single lecture is 2 Annas.

MAHENDRA LAL SIRCAR, M.D.,
March 23, 1895. *Honorary Secretary.*

LORD Elgin's reign is already an eventful one The import duties have been re-imposed. Cotton yarns and goods left untouched at first have been declared liable to duty with an excise impost. Government by "mandate" has been openly avowed. A Durbar of Native Chiefs has been held at Lhore and a Chapter at Calcutta. Before the troubles in Waziristan were over, he has another coal in the fire of frontier war. Umra Khan, Chief of Jandol, has been called upon to leave Cutral; a proclamation has been addressed to the people of Bajour. Nepal has been made a buffer state, and now a protected native Prince has been quietly sent out of his dominions. The *Pioneer* writes:—

"The Maharaja of Bhurtpur, who has shown himself absolutely incapable of ruling his State, as his father prophesied would be the case, has been deprived of all powers for the time being. He has gone for the moment on a visit to Meerut, and Colonel Fraser, the Resident, will administer the State pending further arrangements."

Maharaja Jaswant Sing was a capable ruler and could hold his own. He died on the 12th December, 1893, at the age of 42 Shortly before his death, he had wished that his eldest son who had not given any evidence of capacity might be passed over and his minor son put on his guddee. But this was not to be. Through the intrigues of a Cashmeri Brahmin, who, after the death of the late Maharaja, came into prominence and authority, Kunwarjee Ram Sing Bahadur was made Maharaja with hardly any power. He was nominally the Chief of Bhurtpore and President of its Council which ruled the State. He had only one vote and even the casting vote was not allowed him. The real power rested with one of the Councillors, the Cashmeri, who had the ear of Colonel Martelli, the Political Agent for the Eastern States of Rajputana. Ram Sing, who has not passed what is called the assinine age of twenty-five, was under the belief that the Cashmeri had procured for him the guddee which the late Maharaja would not give him. To keep the Pandit in countenance, in order that he himself might retain the guddee, he allowed the Brahman his own way and was himself led to many excesses. In twelve months, the Maharaja repented of his folly and was anxious to rid the State of the Cashmeri and his many relations and dependents who occupied most of the principal offices. In November last, he addressed the Viceroy a letter to that effect. With that letter seems to have commenced his present troubles which may turn to advantage. Two months after, Colonel Martelli was transferred to Jodhpur, and Colonel Fraser from Ulwar was put in charge of the Agency. Soon after the Cashmeri resigned. His resignation has not been accepted and some of his men have been removed from their offices. The Maharaja has removed himself to Muttra and not Meerut, and the new Political Agent is, we believe, clearing

the Augean stable. The Maharaja expiates in a holy city his sins of omission and commission How fares his Pandu? Will he not be brought to book?

THOSE who admire the genius and goodness of heart of the late Dr. Sambhu C. Mookerjee, will be glad to learn that Mr. F. H. Skrine, I.C.S., who has just finished a memoir of the Doctor in the *National Magazine*, is engaged on a larger and more permanent work of the same nature. Uniform with Dr. Mookerjee's *Travels and Voyages in Bengal*, the forthcoming volume will contain a portrait of the doctor, a biography illustrated by copious notes and *ana*, a selection of his correspondence, extracts from his published writings and about 225 pages of original essays from his brilliant pen. For subscribers paying in advance the price will be Rs. 5. The friends of the deceased publicist, as well as those who are proud of the lustre shed on their country by so great a personality, may send their names to Babu Kisarimohan Ganguli, B. L., 12, Ashutosh Dey's Lane, Calcutta, who will acknowledge all remittances and communicate with the subscribers to the *Essays by a Brahman* which was announced in this journal but which Dr. Mookerjee did not live to complete. The profits of the publication will be wholly at the disposal of the family of the deceased.

REIS & RAYYET.

Saturday, March 23, 1895.

THE PROSPECTS OF TEA IN INDIA.

RECENTLY there appeared some interesting and instructive articles on the greater consumption of tea in Great Britain and other countries and the great future of Indian Tea to the supersession of the China leaf in those markets. That is a cheering prospect. Let us take a survey of tea-drinking in this Province. What was the position of tea among the drinkable articles in native society thirty years back? What classes of men drank the cup that cheers but not inebriates, what kinds of tea they used, how they prepared it? What improvements have taken place in tea-drinking since, and what is the extent of its popularity among the natives? Thirty years back, the use of tea was confined to large and old cities where the Mahomedan population was predominant, and where an important section of the better classes of Mahomedans generally consisted of Persians (Moghuls) and Cashmeri Mahomedans. Except these two classes, whose national drink it is, other respectable Mahomedans seldom used tea. With these, tea was a luxury. They took it rarely, reserving it for ceremonial occasions, or using it as a medicine under medical advice, to ward off a cold, for instance. Its efficacy in cold is still admitted by the natives. Other Mahomedans gradually took to tea as a mark of respectability. After the mutinies, tea was in fashion in all big and old houses to some extent and in some form. It was considered bad manners not to offer a cup of tea to respectable guests and friends. Those who themselves did not drink tea would still offer it to such of their friends as liked it or as were habituated to it. Among the Cashmeri Mahomedans and such families in which they married, ladies also drank tea. The Moghuls (Persians) generally used best China tea (green or other kind,) available in the market. They very rarely mixed milk with it, but never abstained from putting sugar in their cup. This is called "chaisuda", or tea without milk. Cashmeri tea is a peculiar preparation—a thick and strong mixture, a decoction of tea mixed with several other ingredients, such as milk, soda, milk-cream, sugar, &c. This is, again, of two kinds, sweet and saline, (sheerin and nemakiri). In the saline (nemakiri), instead of sugar, salt is used, and cheese is sometimes added. It takes a long time to prepare it, and it is not easy to prepare it well. None can do it better than the Cashmeris themselves. Both the Moghuls and Cashmeris and their imitators are in the habit of drinking very hot tea. Indeed, it is so hot that it is impossible for one not accustomed to it to drink it at all. The Cashmeris use green and Lassah tea which they call "Parka ki chayi." Their decoction cannot be well prepared from any other tea. The two classes still stick to that kind of tea and the manner of preparing and drinking it. "Akhpar", or first class China tea, is much appreciated and used by Persian gentlemen of good position and taste. Those who cannot afford to have "Akhpar", drink Indian teas of the best quality.

Gradually a taste for tea-drinking spread among the respectable and polished Mahomedans, and they generally adopted the English system of preparing and drinking tea. Up to the last twelve years, tea was not a favourite with Mahomedan gentlemen in general. Its use was confined to the two classes specified above. Since, however, the last ten or twelve years, it has established itself as an important drink among the Mahomedans. As far as the present writer can judge from his own observations and the information at his disposal, tea is used by nearly 75 per cent. of the higher classes of Mahomedans in Bengal, the North-Western Provinces and Oudh, and by nearly 50 per cent. of the middle classes. Comparatively speaking, few Hindus as yet have taken to it. The number of Hindu tea-drinkers, however, is slowly increasing. There still exists some prejudice against tea among conservative Mahomedans who look upon it as very heating. It has become so popular a drink with the Indian Mahomedans that, at the present day, one can hardly visit a respectable and educated gentleman who will not offer one a cup of tea with Pan (beetel leaf) and the *Hooka*. From the Deputy Magistrate down to the Head Constable of a Police Station, and from the native Inspector-General of Registration down to the rural Sub-Registrar and Marriage Registrar even in the remotest corner of Chittagong and Noakhali, the spread of tea-drinking has been marvellous in this Province. There is hardly a Bazar or a decent shop even in the interior, where tea is not to be had. The preparation of tea in Bengal is based on the English method, *viz.*, after keeping it in hot water for five minutes or more, the coloured decoction is mixed with milk and sugar, and sipped gradually while it is hot, without allowing it to cool down. The tea generally in use is the Indian leaf of inferior varieties, Assam, Chittagong, Darjeeling, Kangra, Cachar, &c. The higher classes, with superior tastes, use the best China, and the rest get their teas from the Great Eastern Hotel and Kellner. Some have adopted Lipton's, but its use is very limited. Generally, tea-drinkers do not know the difference between good and bad tea, and they do not, as they cannot, properly prepare it. Most of them, therefore, spoil the tea and drink a stuff which is injurious to health. The general idea is to use tea as a stimulant, and when that object is gained they do not care for taste or the beneficial effect on the human system. As a rule, most natives mix a large quantity of sugar with their tea which spoils its taste. They do not know how even to boil the water with which to make their tea. Seventy-five per cent. of those that use it drink bad tea and make it worse by the mode of its preparation. This is not due to the

ignorance of servants. Masters show as lamentable a want of knowledge in this matter as their servants. Even gentlemen that had been to Europe and are expected to lead their ignorant countrymen, have been known to drink a dusty-coloured and nauseating mixture, which is a poor apology for tea, and may even be taken as a great libel on it.

The times are changed. What was formerly a luxury is now a necessity. Now on almost all ceremonial occasions, religious or temporal, tea is served in all well-to-do and respectable Mahomedan houses, and it is prepared according to the two methods above specified, *viz.*, Cashmeri and English. Prepared tea is not only sold in large towns in shops, but is hawked about in the streets. Even the khansaman and the khitmatgar refresh themselves with cheering cups of tea.

The above remarks chiefly relate to Mahomedans. In the early period referred to in the present review, there were hardly half-dozen Hindu families drinking tea habitually in towns. In the country, such families were unknown. There might have been some in Calcutta where facilities are great for imitating European ways of life. Within the last fifteen years, however, the taste for tea has sprung up among the Hindus and it is daily growing. All travelled Hindus, as a rule, drink tea like Europeans. Those who have adopted English habits and have no prejudice, drink tea to nearly the same extent. Some old class Hindus, who though educated are yet very conservative, drink tea in their own way. Among a certain section, the practice with individuals of both sexes, is general.

It is time that the people of India took to tea-growing and tea-trade in general. There are some native tea-planters as native indigo planters, but, we are afraid, the few who have taken to tea-growing have no special knowledge of the industry. They are mere proprietors, who find the money to work the concerns. Tea is, indeed, sold in Hindu shops, but there is no Hindu place where you could get a ready cup of tea. There was at least one respectable shopkeeper who enjoyed tea with his friends in his shop, but never had any for his paying customers. In the Railway station at Howrah, a young Brahman has opened a stall for selling prepared cups of tea and coffee, and we hear that his business is thriving. Tea, as has already been said, is growing in fashion among Hindus and has a wide field before it. If it can replace alcohol, it will have done a mighty good.

LAW *VERSUS* LAWYERS.

ELSEWHERE we give the judgments in full of the two Magistrates who fined Mr. T. Palit for contempt of Court. The matter has been carried up to the High Court. Two rules have been issued, one on the application of Mr. Palit and another on that of Mr. Cranenburgh, the two opposing advocates in the case of Ord against Herbert out of which the matter arose. Mr. Cranenburgh was the pleader for the prosecution, while Mr. Palit, instructed by Mr. Hume, the Government Prosecutor in the Police Court, appeared, on the second day of hearing, for the defence. Mr. Palit commenced by addressing the Court instead of calling his witnesses, when the Chairman of the Bench, Mr. N. N. Mitter, barrister-at-law, reminded him that he could address the Court only once, either before or after examination of his witnesses. Mr. Palit, after his manner, wanted to argue his right. The Chairman was firm, and told the advocate that as that was the practice of the Court, he would follow it and could not allow a departure. Mr. Palit wanted to know who had laid down the practice and what law sanctioned it. He wanted to set it right. There was warm discussion between the Chairman and the advocate. It was towards the close, after an hour, that Mr. Palit is alleged to have used the insulting words for which he has been fined. The Court, while resenting the contempt, was in no hurry to punish it. Mr. Palit was asked to withdraw the offensive expression and to apologise. He, however, did not remember having used the words to which exception had been taken, and went on arguing his right to address twice on behalf of his client. But both the Magistrates, as they said, had heard the contemptuous observation uttered by Mr. Palit, and they informed him that unless he withdrew it and apologized, they would be obliged to proceed against him. It was then that Mr. Palit expressed his regret that the Magistrates had heard him say what they wanted him to withdraw. He added that if he had used the expression he was sorry for it. The patience of the Court was now exhausted. This hypothetical regret of the advocate, if expressed at an earlier stage, might or might not have satisfied the court, but it was too late to be accepted. Mr. Palit was, therefore, asked to express himself in writing, but he would not. There being no proper withdrawal and no apology, the Court commenced proceedings for contempt. Then there was a run to the High Court to bring down a senior barrister to defend Mr. Palit. Neither Mr. W. C. Bonnerjee nor Mr. Hill was available. But Mr. Jackson appeared on the scene. He asked for time to receive instructions. The Court then adjourned. When it sat again, at 3-30 P.M., it was intimated that, having other engagements and the hour being late, it would not proceed with the matter further that day. Mr. Jackson informed the Court there was no necessity for any adjournment as Mr. Palit was ready to apologize, though he still remembered not to have used the words. The Court wanted to know if he pleaded guilty though ; if he did, it was prepared to take a lenient view, as the apology had been too late. Mr. Palit, probably thinking that he had made a sufficient advance towards appeasing the Bench by the verbal apology through Counsel, would not plead guilty. The Court then adjourned for one week to Tuesday, the 26th February.

On that day, Messrs. Jackson, Hill, and Bonnerjee, senior, appeared successively for Mr. Palit. The Court sat from 12 noon to 7-30 P. M. It was crowded with spectators and other barristers. Proceedings commenced with Mr. Jackson addressing the Court. He raised the question of jurisdiction, contended that the Court had no power, under section 480 of the Criminal Procedure Code to try his client. That section empowers any Civil, Criminal or Revenue Court, to order detention, in custody, of any person committing the offence of intentionally offering any insult to any public servant while sitting in any stage of a judicial proceeding, and "at any time before the rising of the Court on the same day, if it thinks fit, to take cognizance of the offence, and sentence the offender." The contention was that not having punished the offender the same day, the Court was precluded from passing sentence another day. Mr. Jackson quoted a High Court ruling from the *Weekly Reporter*. The Court, relying on a later decision of the Allahabad High Court, held that it had

jurisdiction, that the essence of the section quoted was that cognizance of the offence should be taken the same day and it was not incompetent to make the order afterwards, which in fact would be more proper, for it could then decide coolly, without the heat of the day of offence. Even if Mr. Jackson were right, the Court thought that it might proceed against Mr. Palit under section 228 of the Indian Penal Code, under which it convicted him, and that section 487 of the Criminal Procedure Code gave it the power to try, independent of section 480. Another objection taken by Mr. Jackson was, that being personally interested, the Magistrates forming the Bench could not, under section 525. Criminal Procedure Code, try the case. If there was any show of reason in the previous argument, there was none in this, the Magistrates evidently thought, for the Code distinctly authorizes Presidency Magistrates to punish persons committing contempt in their presence. It is needless to say, the Court overruled the objection. Having thus exhausted his quiver, Mr. Jackson again offered the same qualified apology for his client. Seeing that it was not accepted, he left the Court at 1 P. M, after an hour's struggle, in a huff. Mr. Palit, now left to his own resources, asked for an adjournment. The Court then remarked that parties have sometimes to suffer for their lawyers and that it was no fault of the Magistrates that Mr. Jackson had gone away. Mr. Lal Mohun Ghose then appeared and took time to go through the proceedings. When the Court sat again, Mr. Hill appeared instead of Mr. Ghose, and, repeating the objections made by Mr. Jackson, cross-examined the Bench clerk who had deposed that Mr. Palit had used the words charged against him. After the cross-examination had closed, the Court enquired of Mr. Hill:—

"Does Mr. Palit wish to make any statement? Of course, the other day we enquired if he would plead guilty, but he did not plead guilty. Still we give him now another opportunity of making a statement or filing a written statement if he chooses to do so, or if he is so advised, he can call witnesses."

Mr. Hill then proceeded to prove that Mr. Palit had not committed any offence. The words imputed to him were not meant to convey any disrespect to the Court but were used to point out the unfortunate position in which he was placed. Mr, Cranenburgh who was opposed to Mr. Palit in the original case, who had hitherto remained an unconcerned spectator of the varied scenes in Court, and who, if he could make up his mind earlier, would probably have ended the struggle for supremacy between the Court and Counsel to the satisfaction of all parties, now came forward to the rescue of Mr. Palit. He was examined as a witness for the defence. He was stronger than Mr. Palit in memory. If the Counsel could not remember whether he had used the words—"it is unfortunate that you are a Court at all," the Pleader distinctly recollected that Mr. Palit had said—"it is a misfortune that you as a Court would not hear me or listen to me at all" and that he did not hear Mr. Palit say what the court imputed to him. After this examination of the witness, Mr. Hill closed his case, tendered the same qualified verbal apology, offered to submit a written one if that would satisfy the Court, and pleaded not guilty. It was now 6-30 P. M., when the Court adjourned to consider the order. At this time a rumour spread that the Court would sentence the accused to imprisonment and that orders had been issued to detain the van. An hour after, the Magistrates resumed their seats, when Mr. Bonnerjee, with due honour, asked the Court to defer passing judgment till the next morning. The Chairman replied,—"Mr. Bonnerjee, do you really think that I shall send Mr. Palit to jail? I shall not, though I have the power." Mr. Bonnerjee bowed, and the Magistrates delivered their judgments.

On the application of the defendant, the case of Ord *vs.* Herbert was, on the day Mr. Palit had appeared, adjourned to the 6th March, to enable him to apply to the High Court to have it transferred to some other Magistrate. On the day fixed, the Magistrates met. There had been no application to the High Court and the charge against Herbert was dismissed. But before they entered into that case, the Magistrates recorded the following proceeding:—

"Since the 26th February last, we have not taken our seats on the Bench. On the last day of our sitting it became very late in the evening, when we delivered judgment in the contempt case. On that day we decidedly thought that Mr. Cranenburgh who was examined on behalf of Mr. Palit in the contempt case had committed gross perjury, but it being very late and we thoroughly tired after a hard day's work, we could not order that Mr. Cranenburgh should be prosecuted for perjury. I call upon Mr. Cranenburgh to show cause why he should not be prosecuted for perjury and why sanction should not be accorded against him under section 195, C. P. C.?

The charge against Mr. Cranenburgh is that in the above case on oath he said, in the matter of Mr. T. Palit, the following which are false and which he knew to be false at the time when he used them.

1. 'That it is a misfortune that you as a Court would not hear me or listen to me at all.'

2. 'The word was hear or listen, I do not exactly remember.'

3. This question was put to Mr. Cranenburgh—Did my colleague say Mr. Palit had made use of that expression? Answer—'Yes, after consulting the president.'

4. 'I did not hear Mr. Palit say it is a misfortune that you are a court at all.'

Let a rule be issued against Mr. Cranenburgh in the above terms. This will be returnable on the 25th March.

DILAR JUNG,
6th March 1895.

I agree with my learned colleague and senior that a rule should be issued in the terms stated by him.

N. N. MITRA,
6th March 1895."

On account of the absence of one of the Magistrates in the country, the rule ordered could not be signed and, as a matter of fact, no process has been served on Mr. Cranenburgh.

Mr. Palit seemed to have taken the order on himself quietly. For he moved not the High Court, for more than two weeks, although the Criminal Bench was sitting and one Bench had given place to another.

Mr. Cranenburgh was of a different frame of mind. Smarting under the indignity of the proceeding recorded against him in the Police Court, where he is a prominent Pleader, he, on the 12th March, moved the High Court, through Mr. Jackson, and obtained a rule why the order made by the Magistrates should not be set aside. Two days after, following Mr. Cranenburgh, Mr. Palit also, through the same Counsel, obtained another order calling for the records in view of quashing the order made on him.

We leave the Magistrates to justify their conduct. What strikes us is that they had no assistance from the Government Prosecutor or any one representing Government. If Mr. Hume, who was instructing Mr. Palit, could not appear, some one else might have been told off for that particular duty. He could have set the Magistrates right, if they went wrong. This desertion of the Honorary Magistrates looks ominous, and may lead to unlooked for consequences.

PANDIT PRANNATH SARASWATI.*

Pandit Prannath Saraswati was a scholar and patriot. The eldest son of Justice Shumbhu Nath Pundit, the first Indian Judge of the Calcutta High Court, Pundit Prannath began life under favourable auspices. He was a boy of 12 years when he lost his father in 1867. Pundit Prannath's devotion to knowledge was earnest. Taking his degree of Master of Arts in Sanskrit from the Sanskrit College in 1874, he passed his B. L. examination from the Presidency College in 1876, and immediately after joined the bar of the Calcutta High Court where his career was certainly successful. If his life had been spared, he would have achieved the fame of the brightest ornaments of the native bar. But he was cut off in the prime of life, without any of its prizes having been his. Fond of books and devoting his spare time to them, he had a larger stock of miscellaneous learning than any of his compeers in the bar. At the High Court itself, with many able seniors before him, he had no opportunity, but in the distant Kol country, in the great Pandra case, he had floored his father's friend and colleague at the old Suddar bar, the veteran Babu Ashutosh Dhur, the attorney, who had pleaded his own cause. That was a victory worthy of the greatest advocate of any Indian bar.

The book before us is of very meagre dimensions. The life is done within a compass of 12 octavo pages, demy, with an appendix of as many pages. A supplementary volume should be issued, containing the miscellaneous writings of Pandit Prannath. We have no doubt that the memorials alone which he addressed to Government on the various public questions of the day would form a highly interesting volume. The reviews also from his pen and his speeches deserve to be rescued from the columns of the dailies and the weeklies in which they first appeared or were reported. The range of Pandit Prannath's intellect was wide. Indeed, it was wider than what is ordinarily vouchsafed to one who betakes to the law as a profession. His knowledge of Sanskrit was much greater than that of Dr. Rajendralala Mitra. In the Asiatic Society he ventured to give a fresh reading of a mutilated copper plate inscription which is one of the few authentic foundations of the history of Bengal. This incident was hinted at in our issue of October 29, 1892, in these terms.—'The wise men of the Classic Hall in Park Street must have been struck at the phenomenon of their meek juvenile colleague with leaden eyes that seemed to fear to meet the gaze of his seniors, boldly challenging the reading of the great Colebrooke and the mighty Mitra. It is noteworthy that the irascible and pugnacious Rajendralala Mitra took the young knight's vicious thrust quietly.'

With all his culture, he remained the Kashmeri Brahman that he was and could not rise above the prejudices of his sect and the hour. The polish and charitableness of the father was not the son's. But for the early death of the father, the son would, perhaps, have been a much superior man. Prannath lost his head over the Age of Consent Bill. It should be stated, however, to his credit, that he was the intellectual soul of the agitation,—the chief draughtsman of the movement. The Graduates' elaborate protest was his composition, and he wrote many other arguments for the rotten cause. It was a prostitution of ability, but the ability was unquestionable.

As a friendly biographer, Babu Sreenath Banerjee makes an over-estimate of the Pandit's connection with this journal. He writes. "When Dr. Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee started the most brilliant and elegantly edited native weekly, the *Reis and Rayyet*, the first number of it was almost wholly written by this young man. For a long time he continued to contribute liberally to this newspaper at immense sacrifice of his own time and labour, and was thus instrumental in imparting to it that status and hold in the fashionable public which it still enjoys as a paper of sparkling wit and racy style. This racy or *Reisy* style was Dr Mookerjee's secret of success, and hardly any one else than the Pandit could imitate him without detection" This is not wholly correct. For the first few months after the establishment of the journal, Pandit Prannath wrote for it. Subsequently, his contributions were very few and far between. Dr. Mookerjee, again, never admitted anybody's writings without verbal alterations and additions. Pandit Prannath's was, indeed, a vigorous and agreeable style, highly polished and thoroughly idiomatic But it would not be correct to say that he alone could successfully imitate Dr. Mookerjee. Those few, very few, friends of his who assisted Dr. Mookerjee in the conduct of the paper and whose assistance was much more liberal, cultivated journalistic composition with as much success.

In taking leave of this pamphlet we repeat our suggestion. An effort should be made to collect the miscellaneous writings of Pandit Prannath. They will make a goodly volume, full of interest, and will constitute the best memorial of his genius. Their historical value also can scarcely be over-estimated

* *A brief sketch of the Life of Pandit Prannath Saraswati*, M. A., B. L., vakil, High Court, Calcutta; Fellow of the Calcutta University, Municipal Commissioner, Honorary Magistrate, Member of the Asiatic Society of Bengal, &c., by Baboo Sreenath Bannerjee, Calcutta: Published by R. Cambray & Co., Law-book-sellers, Bow Bazar, 1894.

CONTEMPT OF COURT

Police Court.—February 26.

IN THE MATTER OF MR. T. N. PALIT.

Judgment of Mr. N. N. Mitter.

Mr. N. N. Mitter:—On the 20th of February last, we took our seat in court and in the usual course the part-heard case of Ord against Herbert was called on, in which Mr. Palit, for the first time, appeared on behalf of the accused. Mr Palit said that the evidence on record did not disclose any offence at all, and he wished to address the court on that point. I told him that he was quite at liberty to do so, but I could allow only one address, either then or after calling his evidence, and it was for him to decide whether he would address the court then or afterwards. Upon this Mr. Palit became very excited and said in a loud voice that he had a right to address the court twice. I informed him that according to the practice of the court, he could address us only once; either before or after calling his evidence. Mr. Palit's excitement thereupon grew more intense. He insisted on his right (as he alleged) to address the court twice. I repeatedly told him that, according to the practice of the court, he could not address the court twice, but Mr. Palit paid no heed to my ruling. I told him that if Mr. Palit was dissatisfied with our ruling he could move the High Court and that we are bound to follow the practice of the court But Mr. Palit said, "I may safely say that no one here in this room knows better than I do the existence of the High Court." I again reminded him that he should not discuss the matter any further. We had decided the matter against him, and, if he chose he could move the High Court But Mr Palit did not drop the discussion on the point and continued the discussion for a long time in an insulting tone. Mr. Palit in an insulting tone enquired "who laid down this practice?" I again said, "if you are dissatisfied with our ruling you know your remedy, there is the High Court" Then some further discussion took place. At last I said, "Mr Palit be good enough not to discuss the point, as the court has already ruled on the point" Mr Palit thereupon said, "It is a misfortune that you are a court at all" Mr Palit used those words in a most offensive manner and we again requested not to discuss the matter any further. Mr. Palit, however, did not listen to us, but said, if I would not hear him, he would address the other members of the Bench, (meaning my colleague, Nawab Syed Ashgar Ali Dilir Jung Bahadur) My colleague said that he agreed with me on all the points, and we could not hear him. Then I asked Mr. Palit to withdraw the expression made use of by him, *viz*., that it was a misfortune that we were a court at all. Mr. Palit did not withdraw, nor did he say whether he would withdraw it or not, but went on discussing his right to address. We repeatedly asked him to withdraw the expression, but to no purpose. At last Mr. Palit said that he did not remember having used such an expression. Both of us assured him that he had used the expression. He then said, "If you both say that you heard it then I express my regret that you should have heard it." He also said that if he used that expression he was very sorry. From the above statement, it will appear that Mr. Palit never withdrew the expression Therefore I asked him to note down his withdrawal in writing which he did not do. Mr. Palit was talking very loud at the time

he used the expression, not in his ordinary tone. We expected that after the lapse of some little time, that is, upon proper consideration of what he had said he would, in his cooler moments, withdraw unreservedly what he had said; but we were very much disappointed. Instead of making any apology he further insulted us by saying that he would set us right.

I believe Mr. Palit knew very well that he used that expression when he said that he did not remember using it, otherwise he would not have said, as he did, that he was very sorry that we heard it at all. Mr. Palit is a senior member of the Bar and as such should have known how to conduct himself in court. As a matter of fact, we hold that Mr. Palit, up to the closing of the case, has made no suitable apology at all. I find that Mr. Palit is not even now sorry for what he has done. He insulted the court for no reason whatsoever and I shall be failing in my duty as the chairman of the Bench, unless I took serious notice of his conduct. The dignity of the Bench must be maintained, otherwise it is no court at all.

Mr. Cranenburgh's evidence is not satisfactory. He does not remember all the expressions used by me and Mr. Palit. He remembers few stray words of the discussion. As for myself, I reject the evidence of Mr. Cranenburgh as unreliable. My memory is quite clear, and I have distinct recollection of Mr. Palit having used the expression.

I convict Mr. Palit under section 228, I. P. Code, and sentence him to pay a fine of Rs. 20 (twenty), in default one week's simple imprisonment.

Judgment of Nawab Dilwar Jung.

Nawab Dilwar Jung.---I agree with my colleague in every word of what he has said in the judgment. I desire to add that I distinctly remember Mr. Palit using the words "It is a misfortune that you (alluding to me and my colleague) are a court at all." I cannot but characterise the evidence of Mr. Cranenburgh as wholly untrue and therefore unreliable. I agree in the conviction and sentence.

Official Paper.

ELECTION OF FELLOWS.

From---J. P. Hewett, Esq., C. I. E., Offg. Secretary to the Government of India.

To---The Secretary to the Government of Bengal, General (Education) Department.

Calcutta, February, 1895.

Sir,---With your letter No. 225 T. G. dated the 25th September, 1894, was forwarded a memorial from a number of Graduates of the Calcutta University praying,---

(1) that Bachelors of Arts of the Calcutta University of 25 years' standing might be empowered to vote for, and be eligible for nomination as, Fellows, or

(2) that, if it was considered undesirable to extend the qualifications of electors, graduates of 25 years' standing might be declared eligible for election to Fellowships.

An intermediate reply was sent to this memorial in Home Department letter No. 317, dated the 29th October 1894, in which the Governor-General in Council requested that the memorialists might be informed that His Excellency in Council had decided to postpone further consideration of the matter till the Government of India were located in Calcutta, and invited the opinion of the Bengal Government on the prayers contained in the memorial. The opinion of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor was communicated in your letter No. 4312 of the 24th December 1894, and I am now directed to convey the following orders of the Government of India on the subject.

The memorialists have represented that "the number of B. A's. who have taken their degree before 1867 must grow less and less every year, and in course of time this part of the constituency will altogether disappear." This point has been dealt with in paragraph 2 of the Home Department letter of the 29th October 1894 in which it was explained that the object of the rule made in 1892 conferring upon Bachelors of Arts who graduated prior to 1867 the right to vote for, and to be nominated as, Fellows, was not to give these rights to all Bachelors of a certain number of years' standing, but to ensure that those who had graduated in the days when the number of M.A's. was comparatively small should be adequately represented on the electoral body. The Governor-General in Council had never any intention of introducing B. A's. as a permanent element into the electorate, but made the concession in order to meet a temporary condition of things, which was certain to pass away in course of time. The body of Masters of Arts constitutes a *corps d'elite*, representing the highest results of University training, and those who are chosen to represent the University in the Senate should, the Governor-General in Council considers, continue to belong to this body, being regarded as eligible for the honour on the ground of academical distinction alone, and not by reason of seniority or on any other ground. It will still be possible for the Governor-General in Council to appoint as Fellows persons who, though they have been content not to proceed beyond the degree of Bachelor have in other ways justified their advancement to this honour.

3. Similar considerations apply, in the opinion of His Excellency in Council, to the body of electors. In the election of Fellowships it is desirable to obtain the best academical opinion. The proportion of B. A. to M. A. graduates every year is about five to one (300 to 60), and even if the franchise were restricted to B. A. graduates of 25 years' standing, it is clear that, unless the relative proportion of M. A's. greatly increased, the M. A. voters would in time be quite swamped by the B. A's., and the elections would no longer reflect the best academical opinion. The case of the Madras University (cited by the memorialists) where B. A's. of 20 years' standing are allowed to vote and to stand as candidates for election, affords no parallel to that of the Calcutta University. The number of M. A's. at Madras is only 70---too small a body for the exercise of this function---while the number of M. A's. of the Calcutta University is over 1,000.

4. The Governor-General in Council could not agree to the proposal that B. A. graduates of 25 years' standing, even if they be not declared qualified as electors, should be considered eligible as candidates for election. This would, in the opinion of His Excellency in Council, be to invert the right order of things, which requires that the qualifications of candidates for election should be higher rather than lower than those of electors, and would infringe the principle that elected Fellows should represent the best academical opinion available.

5. For these reasons the Governor-General in Council regrets that he is unable to accede to the prayers of the memorialists. I am to request that they may be informed accordingly.

"KISS ME, JACK, AND LET ME GO."

ONCE, long ago, I was witness to a duel in California. The two men had been bosom friends, but had quarelled about (of course) a woman. Splendid fellows both—young, brainy, and ambitious. As they stood in a clear space among the pine trees near Sciamento, pale as lilies, steady as rocks, weapons in hand waiting for the word, the rising sun shining athwart the line of vision, they presented a picture too often seen in 1856. The pistols cracked almost simultaneously. One man stood erect, evidently untoucned; the other fell upon his back and lay straight and still. Seconds, surgeons, and spectators rushed to his side. He was "all there," mind as well as body. "No, don't disturb me," he said coolly to the doctor, "I'm shot fatally and shall die in five minutes. Call Jack and be quick." Pistol still in hand, his antagonist came and bent over his erstwhile chum. The excitement among the crowd was intense; the dying man alone was calm. "Jack, my darling old boy," he said, "forgive *me* and forgive *her* Kiss me and let me go." A minute more and he was dead, with Jack lying across his body, crying like a baby.

After I have told you another and very different story, I'll show wherein they teach the same lesson.

There is no tragedy in this one; nevertheless it is of wider human interest than the other. A woman had been ill more or less all her life. The details are commonplace enough, and yet they will appeal to millions who care nothing for the jealousies of young men of love

"At times," she says, I suffered from pains at the back of the head, and a sense of weight, and felt tired and weary, yet it was not from work only. I had a strange feeling, too, of something hanging over me, as of some evil or danger that I could not explain or define.

My appetite was variable; sometimes I could eat anything and again I could not touch any food at all. *But I was never laid up as it were.*"

Please note the last sentence. It may seem like the weakest but really is the strongest point in this lady's statement. We will tell you why in a moment.

She goes on: "Still I was often in misery, but got along fairly well until August, 1890, when I had a severe attack of rheumatism. First the great toe of my right foot and the thumb of my right hand grew hot and painful. After a time the trouble extended to my back and hips. I could not straighten myself; I was almost bent double. Month after month I was like this, getting little or no sleep at night. Medical treatment proved of no benefit to me. In December, 1891, *the pain almost drove me mad.* My face was swollen to nearly twice its natural size, and my eyes were so covered by the enlarged lids that I could scarcely see. There was a constant ringing in my ears, and the doctors said I had erysipelas.

"For days and days I could not walk across the floor, and for some time I was able to move about only by taking hold of the furniture or other objects. When all other means had been tried and had failed, Mother Seigel's Curative Syrup was recommended to me. A single bottle did me a deal of good. I kept on with it, and soon was stronger and in better health than for forty years previously. I still take an occasional dose and continue in good health notwithstanding my age (48), and the 'change of life.' I tell everyone what the Syrup has done for me, and give you permission to publish what I have said. Yours truly (Signed), (Mrs.) MARY JANE MILNES, 18, Walker's Buildings, Brewery Lane, Thornhill Lees, near Dewsbury, Yorkshire, October 12th, 1892."

Now for the lesson of both these incidents; what is it? This; that it is not people in desperate extremities who suffer most. Pain is in proportion to the resistance to disease. Those who surrender, who are in despair, who give up, have present punishment largely remitted. Dying persons are the most comfortable of all. Hopelessness and dissolution administer their own anodynes. Those who are *not laid up*, who are ill, and yet work and struggle, need pity and help. This lady was one, and to such Mother Seigel always proves a friend.

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Gentlemen desirous of being present at the Evening Party in honour of the Hon'ble P. M. Mehta, at the Town Hall, on Thursday, the 28th instant, at 9 30 P.M., will please apply for cards to the Secretary to the Entertainment Committee, at No. 12, Wellington Square, Calcutta.

W. C. BONNERJEE,
President.

The Mehta Entertainment Committee.
Calcutta:
22nd March, 1895.

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OF THE

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AT THE

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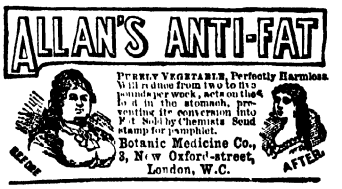

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(PRINCE & PEASANT)

WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

VOL. XIV. CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, MARCH 30, 1895. WHOLE NO. 668.

CONTEMPORARY POETRY.

A CHORAL ODE.

Translated from the Medea of Euripides.

Argument.

EURIPIDES, in a charming episode, congratulates the Athenians upon their divine origin, and the excellence of their climate. Attica, the land of the brave, is characterized by the poet as the nurse of Freedom, and patroness of the liberal arts and sciences, the birth-place of the Muses, the retreat of Venus, and the land in which were cherished all the finer feelings of the human soul. Thence the poet infers the impossibility of an asylum for Medea in the metropolis of such a sacred and delightful country, if her desire of revenging Jason's perfidy should instigate her to murder her own children. The poet endeavours to divert Medea from her horrid purpose, by making an appeal to her maternal affection, calculated to move both her pity and her terror.

Chorus—Strophe.

ATHENIANS! renown'd in the annals of glory,
Indulging in sweets of a genial clime;
And heroes illustrious in primitive story,
Descended of gods in the earliest of time.
How fruitful thy soil, how romantic thy mountains!
Of freedom and science thy laurels e'er bloom;
How sacred thy streams and perennial fountains,
And groves which exhale a delicious perfume!
Through regions of beauty, and flow'rs ever ambling,
Inhaling the balm of the purest of skies;
In pleasure and mirth o'er the green hillocks gamb'ling,
In Greece where the brightest of prospects arise.
Where muses, chaste Pierian Nine,
Infus'd sweet harmony divine;
And taught seraphic notes to swell
In song, as hoary legends tell.

Antistrophe.

Where crystal streamlets of Cephisus glide,
And, murmuring softly, pour a golden tide.
Panting in the sultry beam,
Venus sought the cooling stream,
In beauty lavishing her pow'rs
On beds of ever-blooming flow'rs,
Breath'd through these regions of perfume,
Where laurels and sweet myrtles bloom;
Before her breathing vernal zephyrs fly,
Soft breezes float along the lucid sky.
Twining wreaths of sweetest roses,
In ringlets of her golden hair,
With a thousand fragrant posies,
Waving through the ambient air;
Before her face, in beauty smil'd,
Cupid, fair and lovely child,
To teach the sages of the land
To *feel* as well as understand,
To render beauty in the fair
Serenely sweet as vernal air,
To every virtue grace impart,
And sovereign comfort to the bleeding heart.

Strophe.

Shall Athens, wash'd by sacred streams,
Which far reflect their golden gleams,
Or realm of friends, with open arms,
Receive you from a foreign strand
Into the bosom of your native land—
A wandering exile doom'd to roam,
Still cherishing the thoughts of home,
By day, affrighted with alarms,
By night, with horrid dreams?
Along with many others weeping,
View thy sons, in life's fair bloom,
Survey their wounds, behold them sleeping
Sound in death's eternal gloom.
By all the gods, we thee implore,
To think of horrid deeds no more
Nor thirsting for thy children's blood
Imbue thy fingers in the purple flood.

Antistrophe.

How shall you seize the smiling creatures
While round your knees they fondly cling,
Or mar those sweet and lovely features,
Fresh blooming like the flow'rs in spring
Or how to them so cruel-hearted
As rob them of their vernal joys?
Has all maternal love departed
For thy pleasing, lovely boys?
Or look upon them flush'd with beauty,
In innocence, without disguise,
Alive to every filial duty,
Affection beaming in their eyes—
To-day, fair flow'rs, in loveliest bloom,
But cold and lifeless on the *morrow*,
Slumbering in the silent tomb,
Without the pangs of deepest sorrow
Settling in perpetual gloom?
Thy little suppliants loudly screaming,
Fearful of impending woe,
And floods of tears profusely streaming
To avert the fatal blow,
Will drown thy bleeding heart in anguish,
While thirsting for thy children's blood—
Will force thy frantic thoughts to languish,
And turn, with horror, from the purple flood

G. S.

Subscribers in the country are requested to remit by postal money orders, if possible, as the safest and most convenient medium, particularly as it ensures acknowledgment through the Department. No other receipt will be given, any other being unnecessary and likely to cause confusion.

WEEKLYANA.

M. PROMPT has found in his laboratory that pure water does not expand in freezing. The French Academy of Sciences has named a commission to verify his experiments.

***

AT Chamounix, they have constructed a villa with a constant temperature all the year round. The framework of the house is a system of pipes in which water, cool or hot, as required, is kept circulating. When will they have

A happy rural seat of various view ;
Groves whose rich trees wept odorous gums and balm :
Others, whose fruit burnished with golden rind
Hung amiable, Hesperian fables true,
If true, here only, and of delicious taste.
Betwixt them lawns, or level downs, and flocks
Grazing the tender herb, were interposed :
Or palmy hillock, or the flowery lap
Of some irriguous valley spread her store,
Flowers of all hue, and without thorn the rose :
Another side, umbrageous grots, and caves
Of cool recess, o'er which the mantling vine
Lays forth her purple grape, and gently creeps
Luxuriant : meanwhile murmuring waters fall
Down the slope hills, dispersed, or in a lake,
That to the fringed bank with myrtle crown'd
Her crystal mirror holds, unite their streams.
The birds their quire apply : airs, vernal airs,
Breathing the smell of field and grove, attune
The trembling leaves, while universal Pan,
Knit with the Graces, and the Hours, in dance
Led on the eternal spring ?

***

SEVEN cities contend for Homer dead. Two houses in the narrow Market-street of Coventry claim to be the place where the living actress Miss Ellen Terry first saw the light. A brass-plate on one side of the road reads, "The birthplace of Miss Ellen Terry" ; and that over the way is marked, "This is the *original* birthplace of Miss Ellen Terry."

***

WE read :—

"Mr. Justice Grantham told the Grand Jury at Hereford recently that he heard for some time that so far as that county was concerned, it owed its comparative immunity from physical disorders to the fact that Herefordshire was a great cider-drinking county He had come to the conclusion that cider had the same effect on the moral as on the physical man, and that they owed their great freedom from crime, if he might say so, to the fact that Herefordshire people drank cider. If that was the case, he hoped other counties would follow the example"

If he were aware of the Indian Hemp Drugs Commission, Mr. Justice Grantham would certainly have recommended bhang, if not ganja and charas.

***

THE Glasgow Theatre Royal has been destroyed by fire.

***

WE take the following from a contemporary :—

"Mir Sultan, a grandson of the late King of Delhi, is now a head clerk in the office of the District Superintendent of Police, Yemethen."

The late King of Delhi was, of course, the unfortunate Bahadur Shah, who was deported to Burma after the suppression of the Mutinies. As to Mir Sultan, whose son is he? Was his father one of those unfortunate princes who was shot, after they had surrendered, by Hodson? Probably, Mir is no legitimate descendant of Bahadur Shah. But legitimate or otherwise, this youngman may have Bahadur Shah's, and, therefore, Akbar's blood in his veins. Who is there that will not honour him for earning his bread by industry instead of nursing any sentiment about his birth and taking advantage of the generosity of some Mussulman nobleman whose ancestors had served the house of Delhi?

***

ARRANGEMENTS were made for an assembly of at least seven lakhs of pilgrims at Hurdwar.

***

A FIRE broke out last week in a godown of the Bally Paper Mills. Not much damage was done.

TIGERS have made their appearance in the neighbourhood of Mugra, on the East Indian Railway.

***

WE are glad to find Baboo Gopal Lal Seal turning a new leaf. He has obtained the thanks of the Lieutenant-Governor for his liberality and public spirit by paying up the balance of the contribution of Rs. 30,000 towards the construction of the Elliott bridge across the Bhurpara khal near the Civil Engineering College, Sibpur. The new turn to the Baboo's liberality is indeed welcome to the friends of his family.

***

MR. J. Penton, District Superintendent of Police, Shikarpur, is said to have become a Mahomedan and visited the Shrine of Lal Shahbas, in Sehwan. It is also stated that a number of Pathan orderlies brought about the conversion.

***

THREE respectable Hindoos, charged with throwing a corrosive substance, namely, nitric acid, into the face of a Europe liquor shopkeeper, Rungiah Chetty, and thereby blinding him, have been sentenced, by Major Ravenshaw, the Sessions Judge, Bangalore, to ten, eight, and six years' rigorous imprisonment, with fines of Rs. 500, Rs. 500, and Rs. 100, respectively. One thousand rupees of the fines has been awarded as compensation to the injured man.

***

KUMAR Gopendra Krishna, Inspector-General of Registration, has been Gazetted District and Sessions Judge of Dacca, Mr. Ahsanuddin Ahmad, Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Monghyr, District and Sessions Judge of Nadia, and Moulvi Delawar Hosaen Ahmed, Khan Bahadur, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, 24-Parganas, Inspector-General of Registration. While two Statutory Civilians are thus made District Judges, a Covenanted Native Civilian has to vacate his seat as Commissioner of a Division and to shrink into a District Magistrate in the same Division. Mr. H. H. Risley, having returned to India, resumes his place in the Bengal Secretariat, the Hon'ble Mr J. A. Bourdillon, officiating for him, takes up the Commissionership of the Burdwan Division, and the Hon'ble Mr. Romesh Chunder Dutt becomes Magistrate and Collector of Burdwan.

***

THE new commercial Member of the Council of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal is Mr. Charles Edward Symth, in place of Mr. J. N. Stuart, resigned, and the new official Member is Mr. T. D. Beighton officiating Superintendent and Remembrancer of Legal Affairs, *vice* Mr. C. A. Wilkins. There are also two vacancies, caused by the resignation of two official Members, namely, the Hon'ble Moulvi Abul Jubbar, Khan Bahadur, and the Hon'ble F. R. S. Collier.

***

THE correspondence on the proposed repeal of the Bengal Patwari Regulation XII. of 1817, is published for general information in the *Calcutta Gazette* of the week.

***

SANCTION has been given for the Howrah-Amta and the Howrah-Sheakhalla Tramways. The promoters are Messrs. Martin and Co., Successors to Messrs. Walsh, Lovett & Co., of Calcutta, on behalf of a company to be formed and called the Bengal District Road Tramways Company, Limited. They are bound to substantially commence the construction of the tramways within nine calendar months and to complete and equip the same in every respect for opening and working for trafic within two years from the 26th March 1895.The Amta Line will start at or near to Telkut Ghat, and will pass along and on one side of the road, skirting the Howrah maidan, and thence along the Panchanantolla Road or to the Bantra Road, where it will effect a junction with the conservancy line of the Howrah Municipality, over which line running powers have been arranged. Leaving the conservancy line at a point a little to the south of the place known as Kadamtola (the first stopping place), the line will proceed in a westerly direction along the Makurda Road to Baltikri (four miles from Howrah), the next stopping place. From Baltikri the line goes (1 mile) on to Bankra, thence (1 mile) to Solap, thence (1¼ miles) to Makurda, thence (2½ miles) to Doomjore, where a diversion of 46 chains will be made to carry the line over a bridge to be constructed at a lower level than the existing road bridge. From Doomjore the line proceeds (1¼ miles) to Rajapur, and thence (3¼ miles) to Borgachia. This last stretch of 3¼ miles crosses the Rajapur Jheel. The district road

thence goes in a north-west direction to Jagatbalabpur, and thence due south towards Amta, forming thereby two sides of a triangle. Jagatbalabpur (1½ miles) will be served with a branch line, and the main line will proceed from Borgachia to Nycoolee (4 miles) partly across land to be acquired. From Nycoolee the line proceeds (10 miles) to Amta *vid* Narendrapur, Dipa, and Moonshee Hát. The Howrah-Sheakhalla Tramway commences where the other line begins and runs over the same line up to and over the conservancy line of the Howrah municipality. Leaving the conservancy line, where it crosses the old Benares road (2 miles), the line proceeds to a westerly direction along the old Benares road to Kona (1¼ miles), from there the line goes to Kooledanga (½mile), thence (1 mile) to Deburpara, thence (1½ miles) to Kristopur, thence (1½ miles) to Booita, thence (1 mile) to Beladanga, thence (1 mile) to Chanditolla. From Chanditolla the line proceeds to Kolachora (1 mile), where a diversion of 26 chains will be made to carry the line to Jonai (1 mile). From Jonai the line again proceeds along the old Benares road to Jonardunpur (1½miles), thence (1 mile) to Dipa, thence (1 mile) to Junglepara, thence (1½miles) to Mokoondpur, thence (½mile) to Modhopur, thence (½mile) to Roghoonathpur, thence (½mile) to Debee battee, thence (1 mile) to Sheakhalla.

We congratulate Pandit M. C. Nayaratna and Baboo Anurup Chunder Mookerjee on the fruition of their long labours for carrying steam Tramways to their native towns.

NOTES & LEADERETTES,

OUR OWN NEWS,

&

THE WEEK'S TELEGRAMS IN BRIEF, WITH OCCASIONAL COMMENTS.

AT Simonosaki, the Chinese Viceroy Li-Hung-Chang, while returning to his lodgings from attending the sitting of the Peace Conference, was shot at with a pistol and wounded in the face. The would-be assassian is a young Japanese, named Koyama, aged twenty-one. He is described as a political bravo. A considerable number of spectators had collected in the street through which the Chinese envoys had to pass. Koyama, suddenly emerging from the crowd, stopped the palanquin and fired almost point-blank at Li-Hung-Chang. The Mikado and the Japanese Ministers expressed their profound regrets at the outrage, and the Mikado sent his own physician to attend the wounded Ambassador. It is expected that the Viceroy Li-Hung-Chang will be sufficiently recovered from his wound to be able in a few days to resume the negotiations for peace. In the meantime, the war continues. A detachment of sailors and marines from the Japanese warships attempted a landing at the Pescadores, but were repulsed with slight loss. Another attempt to land a force at Miikung also proved unsuccessful But ultimately they effected a landing and the chief places are in possession of the Japanese troops. The plague has broken out among the Chinese population of Kowloon. Cholera is attacking the Japanese troops garrisoning Port Arthur. Many fatalities have occurred, but the Japanese are taking great precautions to stamp out the disease. According to an official return the loss on the Japanese side from fighting and sickness since the middle of September amounts to sixteen hundred men.

A TERRIFIC gale raged over Great Britain on the night of the 23rd, and the next day a number of shipwrecks were reported, accompanied by serious loss of life. Several persons have also been killed in London and the provinces owing to falling walls.

LORD Rosebery and Mr. Fowler both continue to make slow progress towards recovery. Mr. Gladstone has returned from Cannes in excellent health.

THE Reichstag by a majority of seventeen votes and after an excited debate, refused to felicitate Prince Bismarck on the occasion of his eightieth birthday. The majority comprised the centre with the Radical Socialist Deputies who accounted a hostile vote. The President and Vice-President of the Reichstag announced their intention of resigning forthwith. Emperor William sent a telegram to Prince Bismarck expressing himself profoundly indignant at the vote which is absolutely contrary to the feelings of every German. Immense preparations are being made throughout Germany to adequately celebrate Prince Bismarck's birthday. Reviewing the refusal of the Reichstag to compliment Prince Bismarck on his eightieth birthday, the German press dwells on the constitutional importance of the Emperor William's despatch as openly contesting the Reichstag's representation of the views of the country. Four hundred members of the Prussian Diet and Reichstag started for Friedrichsruh to congratulate Prince Bismarck on his birthday. The Emperor followed the next day. A grand review was ordered, in which all branches of the army were represented in front of the assembled troops. His Majesty thanked the ex-Chancellor for his services. At the luncheon, which was afterwards given in the castle, the toast of Prince Bismarck was proposed by the Emperor, followed by a salute of twenty-one guns.

THE House of Commons has adopted, by a majority of 18, a resolution, by Mr. Allen, for the payment of its members.

MR. Russel, replying on behalf of the Secretary of State for India, said that the question of the abolition of flogging in the Native Army was still the subject of consultations. No change was possible until the Bill was passed in the Indian Legislative Council.

A FINAL agreement has been arranged between Government and the East Africa Company, by which the latter surrenders the Charter for £50,000, and the Zanzibar concession for £150,000

TWO French expeditions have appeared in the territory under the protection of the Royal Niger Company, and are concluding treaties with the petty Native Chiefs. This encroachment on the part of the French will, it is feared, lead to trouble in the district. Sir Edward Grey, Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, made an important statement in the House of Commons regarding the relations between Great Britain and France. Considering that the British and Eggptian spheres of influence cover the whole valley of the Nile, he was unable to believe that France had sent an expedition to the Upper Nile, because the French Government must know that such a step would be regarded by Great Britain as an unfriendly act. He considered the news of the appearance of French missions in the Royal Niger Company's protectorate was most serious, but refrained from commenting thereon until the French Government had replied to the communication on the subject. The events of the last two years in Siam and Africa, have created much uneasiness. Sir Edward Grey concluded by saying that Great Britain had striven, and would continue to strive, to maintain her good relations with France. The speech made a deep impression, and has been greatly commended.

ACTIVE preparations are being made by the Spanish Government for the suppression of the insurrection in Cuba. Seven thousand troops are to be despatched immediately to the island, and Marshall Campos has been appointed to the supreme command of the operations for quelling the revolt.

THE Belgium Government has called out seven thousand men of the reserve, owing to the ominous character of the agitation that is being carried on, fanned by the Socialists in the industrial centres.

THE *Times* publishes a leading article on the present situation of Chitral, and considers that the reverse in which Captain Ross' detachment of Sikhs were killed, is unimportant, except in so far as it may injure British prestige with the tribesmen until the loss is avenged The *Daily News* regrets that the over-confidence displayed may serve to convert the Robertson's relief into a punitive expedition. At a meeting of the Royal Geographical Society, Captain Younghusband gave a lecture on Chitral. In the discussion that followed Lord Roberts deplored the necessity for the forthcoming expedition, but trusted that the result would be the means of opening a direct route to Chitral, which would prove of great strategic advantage. Mr. Curzon has written a long letter to the *Times*, in which he condemns the policy of recognizing *de facto* rulers of Native States regardless of their character or the probable results, and urges that Government

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should maintain a Political Officer with an adequate garrison in Chitral in future.

ON account of the Chitral imbroglio, it was said that the Viceroy would go to Simla direct. That would have been a great disappointment to the good people of Bankipore who have subscribed and voted sums for his reception and to perpetuate his visit. The Viceroy, however, completes his programme. Lord Elgin started on his tour yesterday. After visiting Gaya, Bankipore and Umballa Cantonment, he will arrive at Simla next Saturday.

REGARDING the visit, a correspondent writes from Bankipore under date the 25th :—

Preparations are making on a grand scale to give a befitting reception to the Viceroy on his approaching visit to the capital of Bihar. With this object a joint meeting of the Municipality and the District Board was held week before last in the District Board Office. It was decided to present a joint address to the Viceroy and to raise subscriptions. The District Board and the Municipality each has voted a sum of Rs. 1,500 for the reception. They also propose to give Rs. 10,000 each for building a town hall. It has not yet been decided as to the form in which the Viceroy's visit will be commemorated. Two public meetings were held last week, on the 18th and 19th, at Chhajoobagh and at Nawab Syed Welayet Ali Khan's house in Bankipore and Patna respectively. The first was presided over by Roy Radha Kishna, a leading Banker and Zimindar of this city, and the second by the above named Nawab. Both the meetings were attended by the representatives and leading men of all classes, and subscriptions are being collected. The Maharajah of Darbhunga has subscribed Rs. 500. His Excellency will be received at the station by the officials and probably the Rajas, Nawabs and Maharajas. From the station he will drive to the Chhajoobagh house of the Maharajah of Durbhunga, where two addresses of welcome, one from the general public and another from the Behar Landholders, will be presented. The Commissioner's house is being thoroughly repaired and prepared for the august guest

In the afternoon, it is reported, the Viceroy will drive through the city to the Opium Factory at Gulzarbagh, visiting *en route* the college, the hospital, and other public institutions. Lady Elgin will visit the Lady Dufferin Zenana Hospital which is being put in very good order. Many people have commenced to whitewash and decorate their houses in the line of the Viceregal drive and in other streets also. There will be illumination also in a spontaneous manner and the Reises will put their gates in splendid order with decorations. On the 2nd April, the Commissioner gives an Evening Party at his house. Triumphal arches are in course of construction on the roads. The Maharaja of Hutwa and many other Rajas, some 20 in number, will come here to receive the Viceroy. Durbhunga may also come if his medical adviser permits him to do so.

SIR Charles Paul goes on furlough for eight months from the 8th April. The Bar is hotly discussing the officiating appointment Last time, Mr. Phillips, the Standing Counsel, being absent, Mr. Woodroffe, had acted as Advocate-General. Seniority being the rule with Barristers, the appointment is Mr. Phillips' due. But Sir Griffith Evans has been elected and Mr. Phillips has resigned his place. To prevent the catastrophe, Sir Charles Paul had offered to cancel his leave, but the offer came too late, for the Government of India had made up its mind. Mr. Pugh, we believe, will be appointed Standing Counsel

IN Calcutta, in the town proper, deaths from small-pox have swelled to 138 a week In the week ended the 16th of March they were 35 more than in the previous seven days. The general death rate of the week was 54 2 per mille per annum, against 29 3, the mean of the last five years. Cholera is also increasing. There were 27 deaths against 11 and 11 in the two preceding weeks.

The Indian Association for the Cultivation of Science.

210, Bow-Bazar Street, Calcutta.
(Session 1894-95.)

Lecture by D. N. Chatterjee, B. A., M. B., C. M., on Wednesday, the 3rd April, at 5-30 P. M. *Subject :* "Circulation"

Lecture by Dr. Nilratan Sarkar, M. A., M. D., on Thursday, the 4th April, at 5-30 P. M. *Subject :* Histology "Endothelium."

MAHENDRA LAL SIRCAR, M.D.,
March 30, 1895 *Honorary Secretary.*

THE Chairman of the Calcutta Corporation has declared in the Gazette the result of the Elections of the Municipal Commissioners. Only one election, that of Captain Corkhill, in Ward 18, is subject to the issue of a suit pending in the High Court in which Babu Rajoni Mohan Chatterjee contests the validity of the votes recorded in favour of the Captain. The new Corporation meets to-day to fix the rates.

THE following extract from a letter received by Dr. Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee, some time before his death, from the veteran editor of one of the metropolitan dailies, will, we are sure, be read with interest by many :—

" * * * As you say, proof-reading *is* sometimes a fearful trial one's notions being so confused that it is not always easy to see or to know what is the meaning. Mr. Knight once asked me how I got over the daily martyrdom of seeing the errors in the morning's paper. I told him that they used to bother me at one time but I had learnt better. I said that if the reader was a sensible man, he would see there was some mistake ; and if he were a fool, it would not matter. He said that was at least a philosophical view and commended it."

Yes, it is a martyrdom and no mistake to find so many imperfections in one's writings when one comes to read them in print. For the editors of daily papers, the martyrdom has to be undergone daily, as in the case of ourselves, it has to be borne weekly. The above philosophical view, however, is not always possible. There are errors and errors. When the error is gross and palpable, one may summon one's philosophical indifference to stand it. There are, however, errors which apparently yield some meaning. It is these that cause real misery, for however sensible the reader, he forms a very poor idea of the writer's capacity to express himself. It is for this latter kind of errors that the martyrdom becomes complete. In one of his letters to Murray, while *Childe Harold* was passing through the press, Lord Byron said,—" You have looked at it? to much purpose, to allow so stupid a blunder to stand ; it is not 'courage,' but 'carnage,' and if you don't want to see me cut my own throat, see it altered." Lord Byron, however, was a strange medley of inconsistencies, for in a later epistle he wrote to his publisher, saying,—" If every syllable were a rattle-snake, or every letter a pestilence, they should not be expunged." This was in one of his philosophic moods, but soon after he showed his inability to stand an error of much less consequence, *viz.*, the perversion, by Murray's shopman, of the name of his great poem. " For G—'s sake," he writes, "instruct your shopman not to call the work 'Child of Harlow's Pilgrimage!!!' as he has done to some of my astonished friends, who wrote to enquire after my sanity on the occasion, as well they might." Everybody knows what misery was felt by Macaulay when in a paragraph, since suppressed, at the outset of his celebrated article on Warren Hastings, he was made to say that Goldsmith's *Vicar of Wakefield* is a worthless production. His reputation as a critic of English literature, he thought, would suffer by the blunder. Nothing could be done till the next number of the blue and yellow. Till then, for the space of three mortal months, the brilliant reviewer and critic was really very unhappy. It was a slip of the pen for Goldsmith's *History of Greece*. Yet the slip was such that no amount of philosophy could reconcile the writer to it. He twice wrote to Napier about it and wished the correction to be made "a little more prominent than usual, and introduced with two or three words of preface." After such examples, it is scarcely necessary to refer to our own martyrdom in consequence of the errors of the press that sometimes disfigure our columns here and there, in this or that issue. Printing in India is peculiarly liable to errors of every kind, and we are for following the general practice of withholding errata. In our issue of the 16th March, however, two material errors were committed which we desire to correct. In the leader on "Mixed Marriages," p. 126, col. 2, line 8 from bottom, for "happiness" read "condition." In the letter above of "Bhargava," p. 129, col. 1, line 19, for "months" read "numbers." The *Edinburgh Review*, original series, as edited by Wedderburne, afterwards Lord Loughborough, lived for two or three *numbers* and not *months*. It was started as a quarterly publication. Want of adequate support, however, led the conductors to abandon it soon.

DEAFNESS. An essay describing a really genuine Cure for Deafness, Singing in Ears, &c., no matter how severe or long-standing, will be sent post free.—Artificial Ear-drums and similar appliances entirely superseded. Address THOMAS KEMPE, VICTORIA CHAMBERS, 19, SOUTHAMPTON BUILDINGS, HOLBORN, LONDON.

THE entertainments to the Honourable Mr. Phirozesha M. Mehta went off satisfactorily. Both the Dinner and the Evening Party were held at the Town Hall, and well attended. On the first occasion, there were as many as eighty persons present. The Mahararaja of Durbhanga who could not come had sent in his apologies. The Hon'ble Gangadhar Madhav Chitnavis joined in the after dinner speeches. Mr. Monmohun Ghose, as Chairman, after the loyal toasts, proposed, in a speech characterized by moderation, the health of the guest of the evening. Mr. Mehta made a feeling and modest reply. Referring to the *Civil and Military Gazette* which had called him Babu Mehta, he said that nothing gave him greater satisfaction than to be called a Bengali in Bengal, a Madrasee in Madras, and a Sikh in the Punjab. He might have remembered that Parsis in Bengal were always addressed as Babus, and that there is still a Parsee House in Calcutta in which the heads are called BuraBabu and Chhota Babu. At the Evening Party, all classes were represented. The Hall was tastefully decorated. There was both vocal and instrumental music and light refreshments. An illuminated address in a silver casket was presented to Mr. Mehta, the signatories being headed by the Maharaja of Durbhanga. The whole credit of the movement, from inception to successful ending, is due to Mr. H.C. Mallik, the Secretary to the Entertainment Committee.

REIS & RAYYET.

Saturday, March 30, 1895

THE TWO LECTURES ON INDIA.

MR. S. E. J. Clarke is better known in Bengal as a man of business, than as a lecturer or pamphleteer. He is not only Secretary to the Bengal Chamber of Commerce, but is intimately connected with the managing boards of many a large number of commercial concerns. His daily work, therefore, is not likely to leave him much time to devote to literary pursuits. He is, however, a writer of great powers, and at one time held the editorial charge of one of the leading dailies of this town. It is believed, moreover, that amidst all his graver avocations, he has never completely given up his connection with the press, and that his contributions to the organs of Anglo-Indian opinion are frequent. The anonymous character of such writings has necessarily kept his name in the background, and the public have never had any opportunity of knowing what his individual opinions are regarding some of the most important questions of Indian politics or sociology. Fortunately, he was, of late, allowed a year's furlough, and the commercial statistics which he has to study, and the weary round of meetings, ordinary and extraordinary, which he has to attend in his official capacity, ceasing to oppress him during the time, he was enabled to compose for the benefit of his countrymen at home, two lectures which have since been reprinted in a more permanent form. The first of these has for its subject India and its People, and was delivered by the writer himself. The second, which gives an account of the condition of Indian women, was read at a meeting of the Society of Arts, London, by Sir Alexander Wilson, whose name, as one of the leading merchants of this town, is well known in India. In these two lectures Mr. Clarke deals with a very large number of topics. We cannot possibly refer to all of them in one article. We reproduce some of the remarks that he makes as to the "Want of India." He says:—

"You may ask me what is the special want of India? and I, or indeed any honest man, can only answer, Industries, and to be let alone to develope them according to her requirements and needs. If this can be brought about, then there will be no better field for the employment of British capital than India. If, however, the Government at home is to force measures of industrial repression on India, then every penny of British money now invested in that country is in peril, and it would be the very flower of folly to invest more. Indian industries are very few, and even these, except tea, are in their infancy, yet she possesses coal and iron beyond the powers of computation, copper, tin, gold, precious stones, marble, everything in fact necessary; but she does not possess active capital or capable guidance."

Mr. Clarke is not one of our "professional philanthropists" and he is not in favour of the fads of the hour. An honest Briton of strong common sense, he hits the right nail on the head with very little ceremony. He gives the best advice that he can, both to his own countrymen and to us. He does not, like Mrs. Annie Besant, tell us to remain satisfied with the material condition in which we are at present, and to make no efforts to improve it. He advises his own countrymen to devote their capital and enterprise to the improvement of the manufacturing industries of this country. That advice, if acted upon, is sure to be beneficial to both England and India.

The idea that India does not possess the necessary capital may not be accepted as a fact, except in a qualified sense. The truth certainly is that India produces an abundance of capital every year which is very nearly beyond the resources of any other country in the world. Looking at the subject with the light thrown upon it by political economy, capital means food. It is the materials for feeding labourers that are the *sine qua non* for the production of any kind of goods. The popular idea is that money is the only shape in which capital can exist, but that is a proposition which is quite as false as the ancient belief that the wealth of a country depended upon the stock of bullion or coin that it possessed. India produces a much greater quantity of food grains than her labouring population is able, or allowed, to consume. But the surplus, and even part of what is necessary to it, is appropriated by our rulers, and sold at ruinous prices to meet what are called our Home Charges. That is the reason why India is poor, and England is rich. That is the reason why our Railways, Canals, Tea and Coffee gardens, and Jute Mills have to derive their main support from British capitalists. Nevertheless, it is not to be supposed that English capital has ever been brought to this country, or that there is the slightest necessity of its being brought here. For the construction of our manufacturing industries, we have certainly never been able to do without borrowing from English capitalists. But we have never borrowed a single farthing from England that we have not repaid. On the contrary, we have, during the last hundred years, given to England more than one thousand millions sterling, in excess of what she has given to us in the shape of her imports into this country during the period. The balance of trade has every year been to the advantage of England, and never to that of India. The fact is, while England has been taking away, without giving any tangible equivalent, several millions every year in the shape of cotton, wheat, tea, indigo, jute, &c., our liability to her capitalists has been increasing with the most alarming rapidity. The reason is that a part of the savings of English officials in this country is invested by them or their bankers in Indian enterprises. They alone possess sufficient money for financing such undertakings, and it is in this sense only that India can be said to be unable to do without English capital.

The state of things in India being such, the wisest course for British capitalists would be to seek for investments in Indian cotton mills and iron foundries,

instead of struggling to prop up only those of Manchester and Birmingham which are already doomed. America and India are the two great cotton producing countries in the world. The former possesses capital and enterprise, but is handicapped by paucity of labourers. India has every advantage both for the production and consumption of cotton piece-goods. She has not only the raw material and highly skilled labour in abundance, but also a home market whose demand for cotton cloths is practically unlimited. In another century, the population of America will, in all probability, increase to such an extent as to enable her to become one of the foremost of the manufacturing countries in the world. If, in the meantime, the Indian cotton industry were set on a firm footing, America might find it very difficult to drive from our market our home-made goods. But it would be simply impossible for Manchester, under those circumstances, to hold its ground against the United States. The only sound and wise policy for the British Government would be to encourage the Indian industries and not to repress them so as to enable foreign nations to profit by the short-sighted policy. We have no doubt that our rulers perceive all this as clearly as we do. But under the pressure that is brought to bear upon them by the unwise selfishness of the English manu-

[redacted] imposed excise on the [redacted] cannot but have, before [redacted] more than one direction. [redacted] While the great- [redacted] of Eng- [redacted] tments in the public service, a considerable portion of it is absolutely wasted in feeding idlers and drones, and in useless shows and ceremonies, under the name of religion. In spite of the drain of what are called the Home Charges, there would be capital enough if we could, like the English under Henry VIII., disestablish some of those monastries and shrines which are well-known to be the hot-beds of immorality. That is wellnigh impossible so long at least as the present revival of Hinduism is in full swing. In this state of things, British capitalists have a splendid opportunity. But while they are sadly neglecting it,the British Government of India has been still more unwisely doing its utmost to scare them away, instead of holding out every possible attraction to them.

With regard to the condition of Hindu women, the views expressed in Mr. Clarke's second lecture, are likely to give his countrymen far more correct ideas on the subject than they are generally found to possess. The average Englishman labours under the impression that our women are, throug' our jealousy or pride, "reduced to a condition where it would be happier if they actually were slaves." The condition of our widows is in some respects very miserable, indeed. But the supposition that we treat our women with contumely, or that their condition is that of virtual prisoners, is utterly without foundation. In no other country in the world, are the mothers and wives so much respected as among the Hindus. The mother is actually worshipped by many a Hindu, and the wife is looked upon as an incarnation of Lakhsmi, the goddess of prosperity. It is true that our ancient Shastras, like the Common Law of England, sanction the gentle correction of a wife when she proves disobedient or perverse. But the belief, very general in the country, that the man who beats his wife, loses the favour of the goddess of wealth, and the odium of cowardice which is incurred by such cruelty, have in India made the injunction a dead letter. The feminine doggerels meant to shame the wife-beater have also served to bring about the same result. We may give the translation of one of these here. It is as follows :—

"The man who cannot command the respect of his countrymen at public assemblies, comes home and displays his bravery by beating his wife."

The fact that the higher classes of Hindu ladies are not generally allowed to appear in public, is considered by many Englishmen a great hardship. But, as shown by Mr. Clarke, and as is well known to every one conversant with Hindu family life, the seclusion of Hindu ladies in the zenana is not quite so strict as is ordinarily supposed. The lower classes of Hindu women have generally as much liberty as those of any other country. And if there are restrictions on the movements of Hindu ladies of the higher classes, those are the inevitable concomitants of aristocratic life. Those who pity our Pardanashin ladies might as well pity the Viceroy, because he cannot, even if he felt inclined to do so, come out into the streets to sing and dance with the Army of General Booth.

We have already referred to the condition of our widows as a miserable one in many respects. So far as food is concerned, we might, we think, allow them to live more like mortals, than goddesses. The Ekadasi fasting is a gratuitous cruelty which the Shastras do not declare as obligatory, and which is enforced on the widows of Bengal by a far-fetched interpretation of the Shastras that is not approved or upheld by the Pandits of any other part of India. Even the re-marriage of widows is sanctioned by our holy codes of law, and the fact that it does not take place in practice, is due chiefly to the law and social etiquette requiring the marriages of Hindu boys and girls to be arranged by their parents, and to the circumstance that the Shastras have made no provision for the arrangement of the marriage of a widow. The moral tyranny that prevents widows from re-marrying cannot be certainly justified. But if the remarriage of widows be freely allowed, the condition of not only the male sex, but of the married women and matrons would. be very different from what it is. The confidence and love which characterize Hindu marital life, must greatly diminish with the prevalence of the remarriage of widows. We must then, to a much greater extent than now, be prepared to keep our money in banks, to dine in hotels, and die in hospitals. That sacrifice of domestic happiness we might reasonably be called upon to make. There are other considerations, however, which ought to make us hesitate in advocating the remarriage of widows. We all know how miserable the children feel if their father, surviving their mother, marries again. To see a mother remarried after the death of the father, would drive any Hindu youth to a far more aggravated form of madness than that of even Hamlet. Such instances have already occurred, and, considering the misery brought about by such marriages, it might seem desirable that the remarriage of even widowers was declared illegal. If it were laid down that only those widows and widowers who have children shall not be allowed to remarry, the case of the children would be even worse. The fact is, that the problems involved in the question are incapable of a satisfactory solution. Hindu Society now allows the widows of the lower classes to marry by

espousing the Chaitanyaite faith. However disagreeable that may be to her relatives, that is the only course which seems to be practically open.

In the discussion which arose at the conclusion of the lecture on Indian women, Sir George Birdwood, with his usual large-heartedness, franky admitted that Europe was indebted to India for the whole idea of the divinity of motherhood. To prove his view he quoted the following text of Vashista :—

"The teacher is to be revered ten times more than the tutor, the father a hundred times more than a teacher, and the mother a thousand times more than the father." Vashishta, XIII, 48.

The teachings of almost all the other Hindu sages are to the same effect. See Manu, II, 145.

And not only the mother, but a great many of the other female relatives are required to be, and are in practice, similarly honoured by the Hindus. The general rule of the Shastras is that no one should, for the purpose of salutation, fall prostrate at the feet of one who is younger in age. But some female relatives, as for instance, the elder brother's wife, are declared entitled to that honour which is denied even to the father's younger brother. It is laid down by one of the sages,—

"Even the father's younger brother and the mother's younger brother should not be saluted by the nephew who is older in age. But every one must kneel down before his step mother, his elder brother's wife and his preceptor's wife though younger in age."

Manu lays down very similar rules. He says :—

"The sister of his mother, the wife of his maternal uncle, his wife's mother and the sister of his father must be saluted like the wife of his father or preceptor : they are equal to his father's or preceptor's wife.

The wife of his brother, if she be of the same class, must be saluted every day in the same way, but his paternal and maternal kinswomen need only be saluted on his return from a journey." —Manu, II, 131, 132.

Such being the precepts of the Shastras, if a Hindu takes a young wife in old age, not only his sons by previous marriages, but his younger brothers though considerably older than she, have to fall prostrate before her feet in order to honour her duly. Such practice based upon the precepts referred to above cannot be said to imply an attitude of contempt for the softer sex. In fact, we show our respect for mothers and wives in more substantial ways. Considering the rights of inheritance, maintenance, &c., given to women by the ancient codes of law, their condition cannot but be regarded as far superior to that of their sisters in other countries. The only drawback in the condition of our married women is that they have no opportunity to be properly educated and to be qualified for an independent career. Considering, however, the smallness of the good that has been done to the male population of our country by English education, we do not feel much inclined to agree with Mr. Bhownagree in deploring the exclusion of our women from the privilege. We cannot affect much surprise at the fact that the study of Western science has not yet led to any original investigations or discoveries by our countrymen. The necessary groundwork is being now prepared and some important results may be hoped for in time. But the study of English history has clearly failed to save our countymen from Keshav worship, [redacted] worship, Blavatsky worship and Besant worship. That is what makes us despondent. For ordinary men, the only kind of education which in our estimation has any value is that which might enable them to avoid being duped by those who make their position and earn their living, by mere sharp practice. But if our men are so weak that it is quite impossible to rescue them from the sinister influences that lead them to ruin, what hope can there be that our women, if properly educated, would prove wiser? And if they are born to be led "like the dumb driven cattle," it is better that they should be led by the representatives of our own ancient priesthood, instead of by foreigners who, in their ignorance, might upset everything, without being able to do any good.

ADVOCATES *VS.* MAGISTRATES.

The rules taken out by Mr. Cranenburgh and Mr. Palit against the Bench of Magistrates were heard on Wednesday. Mr. Jackson appeared for both the Pleader and the Barrister, but no body represented the Magistrates. Mr. Jackson therefore had his own way. He criticized the conduct of the Magistrates, especially that of Mr. Mitra, very sharply, without any check or hindrance. He threw the whole blame of passing orders against his clients on the Chairman of the Bench. Nawab Diler Jung has, however, taken upon himself the responsibility of initiating the proceedings against Mr. Cranenburgh. He has given his explanation in the matter of Mr. Cranenburgh. If he is silent in the matter of Mr. Palit, it is because the order of the High Court and the affidavits had not reached him and he had to go away on a sea voyage. He distinctly left the matter entirely to Mr. Mitra. The omission cannot therefore be construed to mean that he declined to put his signature to Mr. Mitra's explanation or have anything to do with it at all. Mr. Jackson's arguments are already known. We give the argument on the other side,—namely, the explanations of the Magistrates. The High Court will make the orders on Monday next.

The case cited by the Magistrates is that of Queen-Empress *v.* Paiambar Bakhsh, a mooktear, who was convicted by the Deputy Magistrate of Allahabad of contempt of court under Section 480, Criminal Procedure Court, and sentenced to a fine of Rs 50. The Sessions Judge on appeal confirmed the conviction and sentence. The objection taken in the High Court was that the Magistrate not having elected to follow the procedure of section 480, the conviction was bad. Mr. Justice Straight held that, although it had some force and deserved consideration, the objection could not prevail. The provisions of the section are indeed to be applied then and there, at any rate, before the rising of the Court. "But" he says, "while, it may be, the Deputy Magistrate's procedure was irregular, to pronounce it illegal is quite another thing, and knowing as I do the difficulty native magisterial officers must necessarily at times be placed in to preserve order in their Courts, I should not be disposed to take that view unless coerced to do so by the terms of the statute. It is perfectly clear that the postponement of his final orders in the matter was adopted by the Deputy Magistrate for the purpose of affording the petitioner an opportunity of shewing cause why such order should not be made, though I doubt if, under the circumstances disclosed, there was any necessity for the Deputy Magistrate to take that course. Anyhow, I cannot hold that the petitioner in any way was prejudiced by the Deputy Magistrate's action, and, as I think at most it amounted to no more than an irregularity of procedure, I think it was cured by section 537 of the Criminal Procedure Code." Ultimately, the Judge reduced the fine to Rs. 20.

We understand that both the Honorary Magistrates had asked the Chief Magistrate to engage a counsel to shew cause against the rules. In fact, in the contempt proceedings in the Police Court he was appealed to to instruct the Government Solicitor to appear on behalf of the Crown. The Solicitor is represented in the Police Court by Mr. Hume, who was instructing Mr. Palit in the case in which Mr. Palit was charged with contempt of Court. The Government Solicitor thought that the Magistrates were not proceeding rightly and that the legal advisers of Government ought not to be instructed. The Chief Magistrate does not seem to posses the power of instructing the crown lawyers. That power is vested

in the Commissioner of Police. Unless, therefore, the Police is concerned in any matter, or unless it pleases the Police Commissioner, that power is not to be exercised. The Magistrates were, therefore, left to their own resources to maintain the dignity of the Court, as best they could, according to their own lights. They might, if they chose, employ any counsel to explain to the High Court their course of action.

THE EXPLANATION OF THE NAWAB.

Empress *vs.* D. E. Cranenburgh.

I most respectfully beg to submit the following explanation under Section 441, Criminal Procedure Code, in the matter of Mr. D. E. Cranenburgh.

The whole tenor of the petition shows that my colleague (Mr. N. N. Mitra) initiated the proceedings against the petitioner for perjury. But I beg to state to your Lordships that the proceedings for perjury were first written by me. I stated in my judgment in the contempt case dated the 26th February 1895 (which happened long before the incident which appeared in the *Englishman*), "I cannot but characterise the evidence of Mr. Cranenburgh as wholly untrue and therefore unreliable."

I was shocked to hear Mr. Palit insulted us in the court and interrupted us in the discharge of our duties. I was still more shocked to hear Mr. Cranenburgh on oath say before us that Mr. Palit said "it is a misfortune that you as a court would not listen to or hear me at all," &c., &c.

In my opinion he perjured himself and I thought that an opportunity should be given to him to show cause why he should not be prosecuted for perjury. The application by the petitioner is premature as he was not served with the rule, therefore the petitioner has no *locus standi*.

I consider I shall be failing in my duty if I overlook any offence committed against public justice and before us.

I am ready to hear Mr. Cranenburgh and shall consider what he has to say in self-defence.

The alleged passage-at-arms between Mr. Cranenburgh and Mr. Mitra had nothing to do with me and I was by no means influenced by it in making the order. I had no talk with Mr. Mitra about it.

I shall be going on a sea voyage on the 15th March for my health and shall not be back to town till the end of April. The Registrar of the High Court has not yet sent us (to the Police Court) a copy of the affidavit mentioned in his letter No. 685 dated 13th March, therefore I am not in a position to remark on it.

I hope my colleague will submit a full explanation of all the points raised by the petitioner.

(Sd.) DILER JUNG.

14th March, 1895.

THE EXPLANATION OF MR. MITRA.

In the matter of Mr. D. E. Cranenburgh and Mr. T. Palit.

In accordance with the provisions of section 441 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, I beg most respectfully to submit the following remarks for the consideration of their Lordships the honourable Judges of the High Court.

It appears that in the affidavit made by Mr. Cranenburgh before the High Court, certain personal matters have been introduced with the object, no doubt, to show that it was I who was chiefly instrumental in directing the issue of a rule nisi on him. I have advisedly used the words "directing the issue of a rule," since, as a matter of fact, no rule of the kind at the instance of my colleague and myself has up to this time been served on Mr. Cranenburgh. The matter contained in paragraphs 8 and 9 of the affidavit would be irrelevant to the subject before your lordships, but for the insinuation which it covers that I was led to issue the rule by reasons partly of professional jealousy and partly of the provocation which might have been caused to me by Mr. Cranenburgh in a case wherein we were opposed to each other, before Nawab Amir Hossein, the Northern Division Presidency Magistrate, Calcutta. In the first place, it is wholly false in the sense which the expression is intended to convey that I now ordinarily practise in the Police Court. It is no doubt true that I ordinarily practise my profession as an advocate, but if I practise in the Police Court which I occasionally do, it is equally true that I practise my profession more ordinarily in other Courts than the Police Court; in the next place, the report of the incident which appeared in the columns of the *Englishman* to which my attention was subsequently drawn, is to the best of my recollection, by no means an absolutely accurate account of what transpired before Nawab Amir Hossein on the 4th day of March 1895; but if it is, as Mr. Cranenburgh swears that it is, a correct report of the incident, even a cursory perusal of the report is apt to strike the reader that a great deal too much was made of an affair which bore little public interest and had scarcely anything to do even with the interest of the litigating parties before that Magistrate, that the only person who is likely to be interested in the report was Mr. Cranenburgh himself, and both the language and the manner which the report attributes to Mr. Cranenburgh are neither very becoming nor calculated to raise his position as a Pleader of the Police Court. Mr. Cranenburgh was evidently offended by what took place in the contempt case of Mr. Palit, and the incident which actually occured before Nawab Amir Hossein was a mere sequel of our judgment in Mr. Palit's case, in which my colleague Nawab Ashgar Ali characterised Mr. Cranenburgh's evidence as "wholly untrue." Personally I was inclined to take a moderate view of Mr. Cranenburgh's evidence, but yielding to the opinion of my learned colleague, a gentleman of high social position, of wide experience and a Barrister of many more years' standing than Mr. Palit, that Mr. Cranenburgh had deliberately given a distorted version of what Mr. Palit had really said, I consented to direct the issue of a rule on Mr. Cranenburgh and at least call upon him to explain his conduct. The paragraph 6 of the affidavit has now rendered it clear that my colleague was at all events justified in directing the issue of a rule *nisi*. In that paragraph Mr. Cranenburgh says that he deposed in effect that he said Mr. Palit had not used the words "it is a misfortune you are a Court at all," which he was charged with having said, but had said---"it is a misfortune that you as a Court would not hear me at all." On referring to Mr. Palit's petition before your Lordships, it appears that Mr. Palit himself does not remember having used either of the expressions (see paragraph 6 of Mr. Palit's petition), and while my colleague, myself and the Bench clerk Babu Keshub Chandra Basu, who were seriously and attentively occupied in the matter in which the offensive words were used, remember having distinctly and positively heard Mr. Palit make use of the words "it is a misfortune you are a Court at all," Mr. Cranenburgh, who was neither personally nor professionally interested in the controversy, which was one entirely between the Court and the advocate, is able to pledge his oath not merely that he heard Mr. Palit use the words "it is a misfortune that you as a Court would not hear me at all," but that Mr. Palit did not use the words "it is a misfortune you are a Court at all." On the other hand, conceding to Mr. Cranenburgh the advantage of an unconcerned spectator of what passed before him on that occasion, it is a matter of no less regret than astonishment that Mr. Cranenburgh should not have availed himself of the advantage to apprise either Mr. Palit or the Court that the words used by Mr. Palit were different from what the Court said it had heard Mr. Palit utter, but content himself with maintaining an ominous silence.

I must here once for all disclaim any personal interest in the matter; whatever personal interest we have taken in it is by virtue of our being Magistrates and not in our individual capacities.

The other question is whether we as a Bench of Magistrates have any jurisdiction to issue a rule on Mr. Cranenburgh. The answer to that question would depend upon the answer which can be made to the question whether we had jurisdiction to try Mr. Palit on the day to which we had adjourned his trial. I submit we did have jurisdiction on the day in question of which the grounds will be stated later on, and therefore, apart from the merits of the case, it was, I submit, within our jurisdiction to issue the rule upon Mr. Cranenburgh.

I shall now proceed to Mr. Palit's case. The facts and reasons of our decision are fully disclosed in our separate judgments, and I beg leave only to add a few words. My colleague having left Calcutta on the 15th instant, I regret I have not had the advantage of a further consultation with him. It is not true that I dictated to Babu Keshub Chunder Bose what he had to say. The plain and simple question was whether Mr. Palit had used certain words. Amongst other things, I asked Babu Keshub Chunder Bose, while he was in the witness box---"What did Mr. Palit say?" The answer which Babu Keshub Chunder Bose gave was "It is a misfortune you are a Court at all."

Mr. Palit was put upon his trial for the commission of an offence as defined in section 228 of the Indian Penal Code. Two courses were open to us, either to proceed under section 480, C. P. C., or under section 482 read with section 487 paragraph 2. After consideration we preferred to proceed under the latter section. Our object in doing so was that we should thereby give Mr. Palit time to reflect upon his conduct in the expectation that he would perhaps be inclined, after due deliberation to tender an unreserved apology for what he had said; and if he did so we would allow the matter to drop. I submit that under section 482 read by the light of section 487 paragraph 2, we as Presidency Magistrates had jurisdiction to try the case ourselves (see Schedule 2 Criminal Procedure Code, tabular statements of offences under section 228 column 8 "by what Court triable." "The Court in which the offence is committed.")

Section 555, Criminal Procedue Code, has no application. If that section does not apply to the procedure prescribed in section 480, no more can it apply to section 482.

I think I ought to state on behalf of my colleague as well as for myself, that nothing could be further from our intention to prejudice Mr. Palit in the least degree in the trial. His conduct in the case of Ord against Herbert was most obstructive and calculated to set an

example to others which, if followed, would lead to the cessation of all order and decorum in a Court of Justice. It may be easy for Mr. Palit to deny all recollection of what he said on that occasion, but it is not quite so easy to believe that a successful Barrister of his experience could say or do a thing in Court without forethought or without some object in view. Mr. Palit is too old a Barrister to act thoughtlessly upon the mere impulse of the moment, It is unlikely that he did not say what he said designedly with the determination of producing a certain effect upon the mind of the Court in order to induce it to allow him to address the Court twice.

Mr. Palit has no doubt repudiated from the beginning all recollection of having used the words for which he has had to undergo his trial, thereby implying not only that it was not impossible for him to have used those words, but that he an experienced Barrister of many years' standing was in such a state of excitement as, he unfortunately fails to see, would do discredit even to a youthful and impetuous advocate. We are unable to see where was the reason of such extraordinary excitement on the part of Mr. Palit, as it was he who was insolent to the Court almost from the very commencement of the discussion, and my colleague and myself never for a single moment allowed one unpleasant remark to escape our lips, although we could not but feel that our forbearance emboldened him to assume the defiant attitude towards us. We treated him with the utmost consideration throughout the discussion and during the trial. We repeatedly requested him to withdraw the offensive expression, but we were as repeatedly met with nothing but evasive answers. It was open to him to make any statements, oral or written, if so advised (See our proceedings pages 37 and 38.)

We gave him every opportunity to defend himself and in the end inflicted on him a nominal fine as a warning to himself and others who like himself might be tempted to overstep the bounds of propriety in conducting their cases before Courts composed for the most part of gentlemen who happen to be natives of the country (see remarks of Straight J., in I. L. R., 11, Allahabad, 361).

CHITRAL.

The Pioneer's correspondent, writing from Camp Chitral on the 8th February, gives the following particulars regarding the situation in Chitral.

News of the murder of Nizam-ul-Mulk, the Mehtar of Chitral, by his half-brother, Amir-ul-Mulk, on the 1st of January, 1895, reached Fort Gupis in Yasin on the 5th January, and was sent on immediately by estafette to the British Agent at Gilgit. Chitral is fourteen marches from Gupis, and from the latter post to Gilgit is five marches.

The details of the murder are as follows :--- For some time past it seems beyond doubt that Amir-ul-Mulk had made up his mind to murder Nizam on the first opportunity. Nearly Rs. 40,000 subsidy from the Government of India and from Cashmere, including Rs. 10,000 due of subsidy from the year before, reached Nizam ul-Mulk at Chitral about the 17th December ; and at the end of December, about five days before the murder, Nizam had dismissed his guard as being no longer necessary. On the 1st January Nizam-ul-Mulk went out hawking at Broz, about ten miles from Chitral, taking some followers and his half-brother, Amir-ul-Mulk, with him. They were going away after the hawking to feed at the house of Shahzada Khanat Big, and Nizam got on his horse when his *pugri* fell off, and he bent down to let an attendant tie it up : at this moment Amir-ul-Mulk signed to a man who ran up with a Snider carbine under his *choga* and shot Nizam-ul-Mulk in the back at about six yards distance. Nizam fell to the ground---he tried to pull out his revolver and called out to his attendants to kill Amir-ul-Mulk---but no one moved to aid him, and all the attendants turned round to the new Mehtar with the facility of a weathercock, firing their guns in the air. Nizam died in about half an hour---Amir-ul-Mulk galloping off to get possession of the Chitral fort.

On the 28th a letter was received from Lieutenant Gurdon at Chitral, giving the news that Umra Khan had defeated the Chitralis in front of Drosh. On this date we halted at Buni. On the 29th we marched from Buni to Barnas, a distance of 20 miles, over very bad roads indeed. The advanced guard marched from Buni about 8 a.m. and we got into Barnas village about 8 p.m. at night. It was quite dark when the advanced guard commenced to move along a very bad cliff up a tremendous height above the river. In several places a slip would have meant that the man would not be seen again ; on descending the other side I found men lighting fires to show us the road, as we had sent on word to have fires lit along the path, in view of being overtaken by the darkness. When we got in the men were very tired, but no one fell out, and as soon as the inlying picquet was told off, the sentries posted, the alarm post fixed, and the men told off to their houses, we were at liberty to get something to eat. We "dined out" with the British Agent that night, on roasted fowls, eaten with one's fingers ; and though I have no doubt one would have preferred soup, fish and a bird at one's club with a glass of *that* old brandy afterwards, still the roasted fowls were not bad.

We marched from Barnas to Koghazi on the 30th, a distance of 13 miles---the roads very bad---and on the 31st we marched to Chitral, about the same distance. One gets a very good view as one debouches into the Chitral Valley proper, about 9 miles after leaving Koghazi. The valley broadens out, one sees much cultivation, the fields being laid out very neatly ; the hills are covered with deodars At 11 miles about one passes the village of Danil and about a mile further on one crosses by the Chitral bridge, with its double bridge-head, to the right bank of the Chitral river. This bridge is very old, about 40 yards long and 4 feet broad ; on the right bank is a rocky precipice with two towers on it forming the bridge-head on the right bank. However, the necessity of attacking this bridge-head could be avoided by crossing the river at Koghazi, and by crowning the hills on the right bank one could come down on Chitral itself. The fort of Chitral is seen among the chenar trees, half a mile below the bridge on the right bank. Lieutenant Gurdon, the Political Officer, was very glad to see us, as we were to see him ; he had had a very anxious time. His house is situated about 1 mile from the Chitral fort on a ridge on the bank of a nullah, in an excellent position for defence, its only drawback being the musjid close by and a considerable village. The house itself is well suited for defence against musketry ; a flat roof and an inner courtyard.

There were several Chitralis wounded in the hospital at Chitral, who had been brought back from Drosh, where the fight with Umra Khan had taken place. All the wounds were from Martinis, with now and then a tulwar slash which had evidently been done as the wounded man lay on the ground --about eleven Chitralis were killed and the same number wounded. Amir ul Mulk we heard was now holding the darband at Gairat (16 miles below Chitral on the road to Kila Drosh) with all the Chitralis ; Umra Khan had invested Kila Drosh with 3,000 or 4,000 men, and was trying to cut off the water-supply from the garrison of the fort. Drosh fort is garrisoned with 300 Chitralis under Kokan Beg, of whom 200 are armed with Snider carbines, but very little ammunition.

There seems no doubt that Umra Khan received a letter from Amir-ul-Mulk asking him for help, directly he murdered Nizam-ul-Mulk ; and Umra Khan, the redoubtable Chief of Jandool, a man with apparently natural genius for desperate measures, immediately concentrated 3,000 to 4,000 men and crossed the Lawari Pass at once, his advanced guard being commanded by his cousin, Majid Khan of Shinar, and occupied Ashreth. The result of a hundred skirmishes and the united testimony of the tribes of this frontier, gives Umra Khan the first place on the N. W. border as an expert and enterprising soldier ; moreover, he seems to possess that intuitive sagacity which reads passing events aright and which is so essential to all great leaders. Witness his taking the fort of Narsat from the Chitralis by a *coup de main* at the end of 1892, when the Chitralis were engaged in internal strife. He lost several men crossing the Lawari Pass, and many were badly frostbitten ; he pushed on for Kila Drosh and found the Chitralis in position in front of Drosh on a high spur about 1½miles from the fort. The Chitralis were posted in groups, the Mastuj men being the lowest down by the road---the terrain is dotted with deodars.

Umra Khan attacked in the afternoon, Majid Khan of Shinar leading the attack, and after a lively fire-fight, the Chitralis were in full retreat. Umra Khan took few prisoners, as the Chitralis are endowed by nature with strong knees. Umra Khan invested Drosh fort and he is still engaged in this at the present time. The Chitralis are at Jairat in a new position, about 6 miles from Drosh, and Amir-ul-Mulk is with them Every day we hear that a great fight is to take place *to morrow*, in the same way one always hears an Arab say "Bocara"-- and "never do to-day what you can put off until to-morrow" is not only the favourite motto of Spain, but also of Chitral.

Umra Khan evidently believes in the Roman maxim that "war should support war," for he is looting grain from the various villages in his vicinity. He is said to have 200 Martinis and 300 Sniders--- the rest matchlockmen , and his force is composed of Panidar Khels, Sultan Khels, Bachkans, in addition to the Dir, Jandol, and Barol men ; he boasts also of a bugler trained at *Peshawar*. Reports differ as to the amount of ammunition he has ; some say plenty, and others say he is hard up for cartridges. The Chitralis as yet make no effort to relieve the investment of Drosh fort notwithstanding the supplications of the garrison. They have adopted the Fabian system of tactics, hovering in the mountains and refusing battle ; they quarrel amongst themselves while the battering ram is at the gate, and their only hope is that *on se debrouillera*. We expect to hear every day that Umra Khan has taken Drosh fort, though a rumour arrived last night to say that Majid Khan of Shinar had been shot dead, trying to cut off the water at Drosh fort, and that 1,000 men had in consequence left Umra Khan to go back to their homes. Two British officers were sent on the 3rd February by the British Agent to examine the Chitrali position at the Darband at Zairat-- it was found that the position was tenable. Amir-ul-Mulk received them with pipes and tom-toms, and was very polite --he appeared dressed in a dove coloured silk suit, with gold embroidery --a suit of his murdered brother's ; on the way out to Zairat we passed the spot where Nizam-ul-Mulk was murdered. Amir-ul-Mulk is a stupid, dull looking youth of 17 or 18 years of age, he cannot look

one in the face, and struck me more as looking like a sulky schoolboy. One cannot understand how he did not give orders to murder Lieutenant Gurdon as soon as Nizam-ul-Mulk was killed, except that perhaps he was afraid to do it. That officer, with only 8 Sikhs as escort, had a very anxious time all alone in Chitral as one can imagine---he sent off to the O. C. Mastuj, asking him to send off 50 men as a reinforcement for his personal escort, but he did not know whether his messenger would reach Mastuj, or that the 50 Sikhs would not be stopped easily at one of the various *paris* defiles on the road between Mastuj and Chitral. However he showed a steady front, saw all these cut-throats in durbar, and carried on generally as if nothing had happened.

The Chitral fort is most interesting; it is a very large place, a square structure, about 80 yards square, with five lofty towers---walls about 25 feet high and the towers fully 30 feet higher again. Two of us were sent to look at the fort on the 1st February, and were shown round by the little Raja Shujah-ul-Mulk. The fort, as I have said before, is situated on the right bank of the river, which runs north and south roughly here; the west and south sides are hidden entirely by gardens and trees---some extremely fine chinars and some very tall poplars. The fort is divided into two parts---one half, the southern, contains the royal apartments, the harem and so forth. This half is the keep or redoubt, and commands the other half of the fort. We were told that all the royal ladies were now in the fort, but beyond one or two sheeted bundles seen in the garden at a distance, who appeared to regard us with disfavour, no sign was given of their presence. We went over the private apartments of Nizam-ul-Mulk, got up very neatly with dados and so forth; a couple of photos of Captain Younghusband graced the wall, surrounded by a chorus of troublante ladies, taken from the backs of chocolate boxes evidently. To get to this room one goes along a dark and low passage leading into a little square room lighted by an open hatchway from above---it was in this passage that Shah-ul-Mulk and his two brothers were murdered by Afzul-ul-Mulk at the end of 1892, when Afzul-ul-Mulk seized the throne at the end of 1892 on the death of Aman-ul-Mulk, his father. He sent for his brother, Shah-ul-Mulk, and *his* two brothers, Wazir-ul-Mulk and Bairam-ul-Mulk, to see him at the fort. He knew that Shah-ul-Mulk was plotting for the Mehtarship, and resolved, no doubt, to be beforehand. He saw Shah-ul-Mulk in the little apartment described above, and was very nice to him. In the meantime men had been stationed in the dark passage. Afzul-ul-Mulk then bid good-bye to his brother, and Wazir and Bairam closed the door as they went out: he then listened against the door to the struggle and the groans in the passage as his brothers were cut to pieces. Their bodies were thrown out of the fort the next morning. Wazir-ul-Mulk was found to be still alive, and they despatched him then. We next saw the tower where Afzul-ul Mulk himself, a short time later, was shot dead by Sher Afzul's (his uncle) men in the middle of the night, who had broken into the fort and surprised Afzul. He might have escaped, and they say his wife begged him to do so, but he was a brave youth, and refused to fly, saying it was not kingly to run, and taking a rifle he ran up into one of the towers. They saw he came out of the tower again, and ordered a fire to be lit to see, and the fire showed him up and he was shot dead at once through the head. The whole place reeks of murder and treachery. At the Musjid the tombs of Aman-ul Mulk, Afzul-ul-Mulk, and Nizam ul-Mulk lie side by side; Shah-ul-Mulk, Wazir-ul-Mulk, and Bairam lie on the top of the hill alongside the tower, on the top of the cliff overlooking the bridge. Then there are a lot of illegitimate sons' tombs, all murdered, Murid Dastgir, Juma Khan, &c., and all this since the end of 1892! Directly Amir-ul-Mulk had murdered Nizam ul-Mulk, he had Nawab, the Aksagal of Snogat, and his three sons killed. The sons were killed first in front of the old man's eyes---all being stripped and then cut to pieces with tulwars --then Nawab was killed himself.

I suppose Chitral is one of the last homes of the feudal system. The Adamzadas or nobles are little kings in their own villages---they pay no revenue, they keep slaves; their only duty is to entertain the king when he goes on tour, and furnish fighting men in war time. They are quite a different looking race to ordinary villagers, and have a Persian look about them. According to the Agency Munshi here, "they have lost the knack of fighting and prefer to enjoy their sweet lives." The old fort though is one of the most interesting places I have seen in this part of the world. We have a guard in it now, over stores, ammunition and so forth.

It is three months since we got an English letter, and cigarettes exist only in the imagination. We do not wish to be personal, but we would like to remark that those whom the gods love die young, and we hope that whoever is in charge of the Kashmir-Gilgit postal arrangements, is one whom the gods love.

Now that preparations for an expedition against the Bajouris are proceeding, it may be useful, writes the *Pioneer*, to note the fighting strength of the tribes on the route to Dir. The Swatis, whose country will first have to be crossed, could probably muster 15,000 men; the Otman Khel, 5,000; and Umra Khan himself could raise in the hills and valleys over which he exercises authority, at least 15,000. Eastward of Swat in the Buner country, held by clans equal in physique and warlike qualities to the pick of the Pathan race. West of the Utman Khel come the Mohmands, numerically strong, but by no means endowed with courage. At Umbeyla the tribal combination resulted in a gathering of 60,000 men, a number which proved how great was the strength of the tribes north of Peshawur District. In the present instance we have no quarrel with any one but the Bajouris, but one cannot calculate on the temper of the people whose territory will have to be passed through before a blow can be struck at Umra Khan. The Swatis and Utman Khel, for instance, may attempt ineffectually to bar the advance of the Field Force; but the Bunerwals can only be drawn in by fanatical sentiment, as there is no intention of interfering with them. The Mohmands, again, should stand aloof, as the line of march to Dir will be far from their boundaries.

If there were a man of Cavagnari's strong personality on the frontier to conduct political negotiations with the tribesmen, Swat might possibly be crossed without a shot being fired save by stray blackguards, and the Bunerwals be persuaded that their best course is to look quietly on. But there is no one now on the borderland equal to the political finesse required. When the frontier is crossed General Low will doubtless have full political power and his line of action will be clear enough: he will have to force a way through to Chitral. But it would be something gained if the necessity for thrashing anyone but the Bajouris could be avoided. As it is, all eventualities must be guarded against by making the Field Force of a strength equal to dealing with any combination, and by having brigades in reserve to watch the Bunerwals on the one hand and the Mohmands and Utman Khel on the other. There must be no risk run of communications being cut, as was the case at Umbeyla.

"KISS ME, JACK, AND LET ME GO."

ONCE, long ago, I was witness to a duel in California. The two men had been bosom friends, but had quarelled about (of course) a woman. Splendid follows both—young, brainy, and ambitious. As they stood in a clear space among the pine trees near Sciamento, pale as lilies, steady as rocks, weapons in hand waiting for the word, the rising sun shining athwart the line of vision, they presented a picture too often seen in 1856. The pistols cracked almost simultaneously. One man stood erect, evidently untouched; the other fell upon his back and lay straight and still. Seconds, surgeons, and spectators rushed to his side. He was "all there," mind as well as body. "No, don't disturb me," he said coolly to the doctor, "I'm shot fatally and shall die in five minutes. Call Jack and be quick." Pistol still in hand, his antagonist came and bent over his erstwhile chum. The excitement among the crowd was intense; the dying man alone was calm. "Jack, my darling old boy," he said, "forgive *me* and forgive *her*. Kiss me and let me go." A minute more and he was dead, with Jack lying across his body, crying like a baby.

After I have told you another and very different story, I'll show wherein they teach the same lesson.

There is no tragedy in this one; nevertheless it is of wider human interest than the other. A woman had been ill more or less all her life. The details are commonplace enough, and yet they will appeal to millions who care nothing for the jealousies of young men of love.

"At times," she says, I suffered from pains at the back of the head, and a sense of weight, and felt tired and weary, yet it was not from work only. I had a strange feeling, too, of something hanging over me, as of some evil or danger that I could not explain or define.

My appetite was variable; sometimes I could eat anything and again I could not touch any food at all. *But I was never laid up as it were.*"

Please note the last sentence. It may seem like the weakest but really is the strongest point in this lady's statement. We will tell you why in a moment.

She goes on: "Still I was often in misery, but got along fairly well until August, 1890, when I had a severe attack of rheumatism. First the great toe of my right foot and the thumb of my right hand grew hot and painful. After a time the trouble extended to my back and hips. I could not straighten myself; I was almost bent double. Month after month I was like this, getting little or no sleep at night. Medical treatment proved of no benefit to me. In December, 1891, *the pain almost drove me mad.* My face was swollen to nearly twice its natural size, and my eyes were so covered by the enlarged lids that I could scarcely see. There was a constant ringing in my ears, and the doctors said I had erysipelas.

"For days and days I could not walk across the floor, and for some time I was able to move about only by taking hold of the furniture or other objects. When all other means had been tried and had failed, Mother Seigel's Curative Syrup was recommended to me. A single bottle did me a deal of good. I kept on with it, and soon was stronger and in better health than for forty years previously. I still take an occasional dose and continue in good health notwithstanding my age (48), and the 'change of life.' I tell everyone what the Syrup has done for me, and give you permission to publish what I have said. Yours truly (Signed), (Mrs.) MARY JANE MILNES, 18, Walker's Buildings, Brewery Lane, Thornhill Lees, near Dewsbury, Yorkshire, October 12th, 1892."

Now for the lesson of both these incidents; what is it? This; that it is not people in desperate extremities who suffer most. Pain is in proportion to the resistance to disease. Those who surrender, who are in despair, who give up, have present punishment largely remitted. Dying persons are the most comfortable of all. Hopelessness and dissolution administer their own anodynes. Those who are *not laid up*, who are ill, and yet work and struggle, need pity and help. This lady was one, and to such Mother Seigel always proves a friend.

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VOL. XIV. CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, APRIL 6, 1895. WHOLE NO. 669.

CONTEMPORARY POETRY.

TRANSLATION OF LA PARTENZA OF METASTASIO.

THE hour is come, replete with woes,
Nicé, my love, adieu,
No ray of bliss the future shows,
'Tis darkness to my view.
Can I enjoy the balm of rest,
If distant far from thee?
What boding fears alarm my breast!
Thou wilt not think of me!

Though peace is banish'd from my mind,
And hope's gay joys are flown;
Still would my thoughts these phantoms find,
Where thou art found alone:
Ah! let them stray, by fancy led,
In vision's paths with thee;
But yet, alas! how much I dread
Thou wilt not think of me!

The sea's lone shore my grief shall know,
I'll mourn like widow'd dove,
I'll ask the rocks, with ceaseless woe,
Ah! tell me where's my love?
Each morning's beams my voice shall hear,
That voice which calls on thee;
But yet, alas! how much I fear
Thou wilt not think of me!

I'll visit oft each flowery vale,
Each scene to me once dear,
Where joy was breath'd by every gale,
When thou, my love, wast near;
Remembrance sad, in every part,
My torment now must be;
What fears, alas! distract my heart
Thou wilt not think of me!

This stream, I'll say, with crystal wave,
Was witness to my pain
To see her frown; but then she gave
Her hand in peace again;
'Twas here I oft have seen the smile,
'T was here I sigh'd for thee;
But will e'er hope again beguile?
Say, wilt thou think of me?

How many swains, with love sincere,
And hearts to thee most true—
How many scenes of hope and fear
Thy new abode will view!
While each fond breast its homage shows,
And pours its griefs to thee,
Who knows, my love, alas! who knows
If thou wilt think of me?

Remember oft, when once we part,
My deep, yet pleasing wound,
Remember oft, Phileno's heart
Was ever constant found:
Remember oft this sad farewell
Which now I give to thee,
Oh! think, my love—but who can tell
If thou wilt think of me?

DEAFNESS. An essay describing a really genuine Cure for Deafness, Singing in Ears, &c., no matter how severe or long-standing, will be sent post free.—Artificial Ear-drums and similar appliances entirely superseded. Address THOMAS KEMPE, VICTORIA CHAMBERS, 19, SOUTHAMPTON BUILDINGS, HOLBORN, LONDON.

WEEKLYANA.

THE subscription to the Lady Elliott Memorial Fund is no longer limited to Rs. 20. The Committee have decided to receive such sums as may be sent to them.

***

ON a reference, the High Court has held that the Standard Marine Insurance Company, Limited, of whom Messrs. Gladstone, Wyllie & Co. are agents, are not liable to the Municipal License Tax. The reason for the exemption is that in the Municipal Act insurance business is not expressly mentioned as a taxable trade. It is besides not the trade but the person exercising it and having a place of business in Calcutta, that is liable to the tax. This decision is sure to reduce appreciably the income of the Municipality from trade licenses. No matter; the law should be upheld.

***

FIVE solicitors in England have been struck off the rolls for misappropriation of clients' money. The men struck off were, it is evident, unable to replace in time what they had appropriated.

***

REFERRING to the decoration of Mrs. Fowler and Lady Sandhurst with the Crown of India, the *St. James's Gazette* observes that if a lady is to be decorated for something her husband has done, these Orders may soon become inconveniently common. The *Gazette*, it is evident, ascribes the honours, in the cases mentioned, to something done by Mr. Fowler and Lord Sandhurst. This is scarcely fair in an age when women are regarded as the equals of men in many respects. Why should not the wives be deemed to have earned the decoration in their own right? Then, again, honour shown to wives is not necessarily honour shown to husbands. Are examples needed for bringing this out more clearly?

***

WE read in the papers:—

"By order of the Tsar, a Commission is stated to have been appointed to discuss a scheme for the foundation of an institution, to be named

Subscribers in the country are requested to remit by postal money orders, if possible, as the safest and most convenient medium, particularly as it ensures acknowledgment through the Department. No other receipt will be given, any other being unnecessary and likely to cause confusion.

after the late Alexander III., where literary men, artists, and actors incapacitated from work by old age or sickness would be received and provided for. The institution is to be erected on one of the Imperial domains."

If such an institution becomes an accomplished fact in Russia, barbarous Russia will have done more for literature and art than civilised England, or France, or Germany, or America. In England, pensions from the sovereign's privy purse have in a few instances proved efficacious, but what is wanted is an organised system of relief.

***

TWO more natives of India, who are Statutory Civilians, have been appointed to act as District and Sessions Judges in Bengal. The total number of such Judges is now six, and they are Baboo Brajendra Kumar Seal (Burdwan), Kumar Gopendra Krishna (Dacca), Syed Nural Huda (Jessore), Moulvi Ashanuddin Ahmed (Nadia), Babu Barada Charan Mitra (Faridpur), and Babu Kedar Nath Roy (Pabna).

***

BY virtue of his office, the officiating Advocate-General is a member of the Bengal Legislative Council, and the Hon'ble Sir Griffith Humphrey Pugh Evans, K.C.I.E., has been so gazetted.

***

THE Hon'ble Mr. W. C. Bonnerjee, having left for England and not meaning to return before November, till after the Long Vacation of the High Court, has resigned his seat in the Bengal Legislative Council. The resignation has been accepted and the Calcutta University will be called upon to elect a successor. Already, active canvassing has commenced, and the ubiquitous candidate is abroad. To him no place is sacred. He is fit for all offices that can bring power or pelf.

***

THE Hon'ble Mr. F. R. S Colliet goes on furlough. Mr. E. W. Collin succeeds him as Magistrate and Collector of the 24-Parganas, and Mr. Herbert Hope Risley as member of the Bengal Legislative Council. Mr. Colliet is no doubt an officer of mark. His edition of the Bengal Municipal Act shows an acquaintance, that is above the average, with the law. Unfortunately, he thinks too highly of his covenanted dignity and is unwilling to cultivate closer relations with the people of the country.

***

MR. G. C. Kilby left India on furlough on the 20th March. We are glad that Mr. P. L. Roy, Barrister-at-Law, acts as Deputy Superintendent and Remembrancer of Legal Affairs. Mr. Roy has good criminal practice, and is sure to give satisfaction. Another reason for our gratification is that the place has been opened to the natives of the country. We had had a native Standing Counsel, and now we have a native Deputy Remembrancer of Legal Affairs, though only officiating. As in the case of Mr. W C. Bonnerjee, Mr. Roy is a loser, financially. To make up, in however small a degree, the loss, Mr Roy has permission to do Chamber criminal business and to take up civil cases, provided that does not interfere with his regular duty.

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THE Lieutenant Governor has prohibited the levy of any fee on applications for new trial of contested cases under section 38 of the Presidency Small Cause Courts' Act 1882 (as modified by Act I of 1895)

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THE excise duty on each gallon, London-proof, of country-spirit manufactured in the distillery of the district of Bankura, Lower Bengal, has been fixed at Rs. 2. In the Hooghly District, there will be two rates, namely, Rs 5 in the Hooghly Sudar Sub-Division and in the Serampore Sub-Division, and Rs. 2 in the Jahanabad Sub-Division.

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THE Collector of Customs, Calcutta, has been declared Collector under Act XVII of 1894 in regard to all mills in Bengal not specially declared to be within the jurisdiction of any other Collector, and not included within Calcutta.

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THE Government Municipal Commissioners, or as the late Baboo Jadu Lal Mullick would say, the Imperial Commissioners, on the new Municipal Board, are —

Surgeon-Lieut.-Col. J. O'Brien, M.D.
Mr. Elias S. Gubbay.
Maharaja Sir Narendra Krishna Bahadur, K.C.I.E.
The Hon'ble Prince Sir Jahan Kadr Meerza Muhammad Wahid Ali, Bahadur, K.C.I.E.
Sahebzada Muhammad Bakhtiyar Shah.
Brigade-Surgeon Lieut.-Col R. C. Sanders, M.D.
The Hon'ble Maulvi Muhammad Yusuf Khan Bahadur.
Mr. Hirjeebhoy Manackjee Rustomjee.
The Hon'ble Sir John Lambert, K.C.I.E.
Lieut. E. W. Petley, R.N. (retired.)
The Hon'ble Rai Durgagati Banerji, Bahadur, C.I.E.
Nawab Syed Ameer Hossein, C.I.E.
Mr. A. F. M. Abdur Rahman, Barrister-at-law.
Mr. W. J. Simmons.

The representatives of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce are— Mr A. Macdonald and Babus Joygobind Law, Poolin Behary Sircar and Heera Lall Bagla. The Calcutta Trades Association have elected Messrs. E. F. Longley, W. H. Phelps, F. A. Larmour and W. Bushby. The Hon'ble Mr. C. C. Stevens and Mr. C. R. Marriot represent the Port Commissioners.

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A CORRESPONDENT, writing from Bankipore, says :—

"Great sympathy was felt by all classes for the serious illness of our Collector Mr. C. J. O'Donell who has endeared himself to all classes and especially to the natives. A large number of native gentlemen were seen calling at his house daily during his illness to enquire after his condition. I am glad to report that he is now out of danger and progressing favourably. He will soon be going on leave. Mr. Bolton, the Additional Commissioner, is acting for the Magistrate in addition to his own duties. It is decided that Mr. Salmon, the District Engineer, reverts to the P. W. D. from April, and the District Board will have to appoint a successor to him. The pay of this post is Rs. 1,000, and probably a large number of applications will be received.

The post of the Secretary to the District Board is hanging fire for the last six months."

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'TESTIMONIALS of Dr. Surat Lal Mitra, Homœopathic Physician, Calcutta," is a collection of opinions of the press, regarding the Babu's popularity at Dacca where he practised homœopathy for six years. Last year when he found it necessary, on account of the death of his father, the late Baboo Nilmoney Mitter, to remove to Calcutta, they held a meeting and presented him with a gold watch and chain. Mr. Mitra also holds a gold medal from a Mahomedan of Kaltabazar for having successfully treated a case in his house.

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THE Indian Hemp Drugs Commission has made its Report to Government and Government has recorded its Resolution on it, without publishing the Report. The conclusions arrived at are—that a moderate use of hemp drugs is not injurious; that the habit of using hemp drugs is easier to break off than the habit of using alcohol or opium, that a moderate use of hemp drugs does not cause injury; that a moderate use of ganja and charas is not appreciably harmful; that bhang is a harmless and refreshing drink; that there is no evidence to support the very strong popular impression that hemp drugs are a fruitful source of insanity; that moderate consumers of these drugs are not offensive to their neighbours and are not distinguishable from total abstainers; that excessive use of hemp drugs may bring the consumer to poverty and so lead him to dishonest practices, and although there may be cases where excessive use of the drugs has led to violent crime, there are no such marked ill-effects, physical, mental or moral, as they were popularly believed to be before the enquiry was made. The suggestions of the Commission as regards Control and Taxation are —

"*(a)* That in Bengal, Government warehouses for the storage of ganja should be constructed in Rajshahi (Chapter XVI, paragraph 643).

(b) That, subject to this addition, the Bengal system of ganja administration should be generally followed in the Central Provinces, Madras, Bombay, Berar, and possibly in Ajmere and Coorg (Chapter XVI, paragraphs 656, 671, 672, and 673).

(c) That in the Central Provinces all ganja should pay a direct duty, whether consumed in the province or exported; that the rule under which ganja is supplied by wholesale to retail vendors at a fixed price should be abolished; and that the number of wholesale licenses should be granted more freely and without charge (Chapter XVI, paragraphs 649, 654, and 655).

(d) That in the North-Western Provinces the cultivation and manufacture of ganja should be prohibited and the system of bonded warehouses introduced for its storage (Chapter XVI, paragraph 657)

(e) That the Madras and Bombay cultivation of the hemp plant should be prohibited except under license, and that the licensed cultivation should be restricted to limited areas; also that a fixed duty should be imposed on ganja, such supervision of the manufacture and storage of the crop being maintained as is necessary to its imposition (Chapter XVI, paragraphs 662, 669, and 671).

(f) That similar measures should be introduced into Berar and possibly Ajmere and Coorg (Chapter XVI, paragraphs 672 and 673).

(g) That on all charas imported into the Punjab a duty of not less than Rs. 80 per maund be levied, the drug being stored in bonded warehouses, and duty paid when it is taken out by the vendors. Inter-provincial arrangements regarding the crediting of duty to different provinces to be made under the orders of the Supreme Government (Chapter XVI, paragraphs 674 and 675).

(h) That, where possible, a duty should be levied on bhang. Where refuse ganja is used as bhang, the rate may have to be fixed at a higher figure with reference to this fact (Chapter XVI, paragraph 677).

(i) That, as a rule, separate licenses should be granted for the sale of the different kinds of drugs (Chapter XVI, paragraph 680).

(j) That licenses for retail sale should not ordinarily be granted to wholesale dealers (Chapter XVI, paragraph 682).

(k) That a separate license should be granted for each shop (Chapter XVI, paragraph 683).

(l) The licenses for retail vend should contain a provision prohibiting the vendor from selling the drugs to children or insane persons (Chapter XVI, paragraph 684).

(m) That when new shops are proposed, municipal bodies, rural notables, zamindars, or headmen, as the case may be, should be consulted as to the necessity of opening them and as to their location, and that objections, if made, should receive the most careful attention (Chapter XVI, paragraph 688).

(n) That the limit of legal possession of the hemp drugs should be the same for the whole of British India, *viz*—

Ganja and charas, or any preparation or admixture thereof, 5 tolas.

Bhang, or any preparation or admixture thereof, one-quarter of a sér.

And that Native States should be invited to adopt this maximum (Chapter XVI paragraph 690)."

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THE Governor-General in Council approves generally of the suggestions. The Resolution thus concludes :—

"In conclusion, the Governor-General in Council desires to thank the President, Mr Mackworth Young, and the members of the Commission for the exhaustive inquiry they have made. The investigation has been a laborious one, but it has been very complete, and the manner in which the Commission have pursued, to definite conclusions, the various matters arising out of the evidence brought before them, leaves nothing to be desired. The general ignorance on the subject of hemp drugs will, it is trusted, now be dissipated by the attention which the investigation of the Commission has directed to the subject. The want of uniformity in the excise administration of hemp drugs which has been found by the Commission to exist, will, no doubt, in due time, be set right, and this most valuable result is of itself sufficient to justify the appointment of the Commission. The Report of the Commission has shown how little foundation there is for many of the popular beliefs and impressions which have prevailed in regard to the preparations made from the hemp plant and the effect of the use of hemp drugs upon their consumers, and the information which has been brought together on the subject in the Report of the Commission is of great interest and value, not only to Government and its officers, but also to the general public.

The acknowledgments of the Government are especially due to the three unofficial gentlemen, Raja Soshi Sekareshwar Ray, Kunwar Harnam Singh, and Lala Nihal Chand, who at great expenditure of time and comfort, and, in one case at least, at some risk to health, took part in the investigations of the Commission. The inability of the Governor-General in Council to agree with two of these gentlemen, in the points on which they dissent from the views of their colleagues, does not diminish his appreciation of the care and labour they have bestowed on the task entrusted to them."

The dissentients are Raja Soshi Sekareshwar Roy and Lala Nihal Chand. They also do not agree with each other. The Raja believes that "the injurious effects of the hemp drugs are greater and their use more hurtful than one would naturally suppose to be the case after reading the concluding portion of Chapter XIII of our Report, although I think I should say that the facts elicited by our enquiry do not go to support the extreme opinion held by some well-intentioned people that these drugs in all their forms and in every case are highly pernicious in their effects." He is "inclined to believe that the prohibition of the use of ganja and charas would be a source of benefit to the people." But the prohibition is to be gradual. The Lala is unable to come to any conclusion.

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IT is the Mecca pilgrim season and cholera has appeared at Camaran on board three Bombay pilgrim vessels.

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THE *Times* publishes an article on the present speculation in silver which is based on the prospect of demand in the East, and also on the chance that the forthcoming Monetary Conference of which, however, Government has heard nothing officially, may do something.

DEAFNESS COMPLETELY CURED! Any person suffering from Deafness, Noises in the Head, &c., may learn of a new, simple treatment, which is proving very successful in completely curing cases of all kinds. Full particulars, including many unsolicited testimonials and newspaper press notices, will be sent post free on application. The system is, without doubt, the most successful ever brought before the public. Address, Aural Specialist, Albany Buildings, 39, Victoria Street, Westminster, London, S. W.

NOTES & LEADERETTES,

OUR OWN NEWS,

&

THE WEEK'S TELEGRAMS IN BRIEF, WITH OCCASIONAL COMMENTS.

THE assault on the Chinese Envoy in Japan has proved an advantage to the Celestial Empire. To atone for the outrage on the Viceroy Li Hung Chang, the Mikado has decreed that an unconditional armistice shall be observed until the conclusion of the peace negotiations. By the terms of the armistice the Japanese will maintain all the positions at present in their possession. Telegrams received in London state that the armistice limited to the Shangtung—Pechili localities expires on the 20th April. If in the meantime the negotiations for peace have been broken off, the armistice terminates forthwith. Either the Chinese or the Japanese Government may make a fresh distribution of troops so long as such movements are not intended for the purpose of augmenting the armies already in the field. The would be assassin, Koyama Young, has been sentenced to penal servitude for life. Further reports of the Japanese operations in the Pescadores state that the capture of the Islands was preceded by two days' fighting at Makung. A thousand Chinese surrendered at Yenkung, and many guns fell into the hands of the Japanese.

FETES were held throughout Germany on April 1, in honour of Prince Bismarck's eightieth birthday. Enthusiasm was specially marked in Berlin and Hamburg, which cities were illuminated at night.

LORD Kimberley, in receiving a deputation about the amelioration of the condition of the Armenians, dwelt upon the difficulty of dealing with the matter, for fear of raising an Eastern Question. Lord Kimberley said he believed that France and Russia were equally convinced of the necessity of a permanent remedy.

THE Paris papers in commenting upon Sir Edward Grey's statement in the House of Commons declare that France recognises the Egyptian rights on the Upper Nile, but nobody else's. The Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, replying to Mr. Labouchere, said that the question of the British sphere of influence on the Nile was discussed with France last year. The discussion was not concluded, but neither were the negotiations broken off, Government did not ignore the title of Turkey or Egypt to the Upper Nile. The *Temps*, commenting on the statement, says that France recognised the convention concluded in 1891 only regarding Zanzibar, for which she received an equivalent in Madagascar. The article concludes by declaring that it is useless to resort to high-sounding words.

IN the annual boat race between the two Universities, Oxford won by two lengths. This is Oxford's seventh successive victory, Cambridge having won in the four years 1886-89. Last year Oxford won by 3¼ lengths, making her total 28 as against 22 for Cambridge. The contest in 1877 was a dead heat.

IN the House of Commons, on April 2, the Welsh Disestablishment Bill was read a second time by a majority of 44, the vote being 304 for the Bill and 260 against.

SIR Edward Grey replying to a question put by the Hon. G. Curzon, said that the agreement with Russia regarding the Pamirs had been concluded, and that a copy would shortly be laid on the table of the House. By the terms of the agreement the stream issuing from Lake Victoria is recognised as the Oxus, and the frontier is drawn thence eastward to the Chinese frontier. The trans-Oxian villages of Shignan and Rosh in will be Russian, while the cis-Oxian village of Darwaz will belong to Afghanistan. Russia also gives the Afghans some Bokharan villages cis-Oxus.

THE condition of the Czarewitch, who has been staying in Algiers for the benefit of his health, has become much worse.

LORD Harris, addressing a Conservative meeting at Faversham, referred to the attacks on his administration made by the Vernacular Press,

and ascribed them to his policy benefiting the poor instead of yielding to the pressure of the richer classes.

THE Government yielding to pressure of the Radicals, have finally nominated Mr. Gully as their candidate for the post of Speaker. This selection will involve the first contest for the Parliamentary chair that has taken place during the last sixty years.

IT is stated that the Government of South Australia have decided to abolish the militia as a measure of economy.

MR. Balfour, speaking at a meeting of the Bimetallic League, said that he considered the Indian currency system combined all the drawbacks of any system ever tried in the Empire. A change in the general monetary system was imperative, but it was impossible for England to act alone, since it was dependent upon the world for its food supply.

THE Directors at the Liberator Society who were charged with fraud have been committed for trial, bail being allowed.

THE case against the Marquis of Queensberry at the Old Bailey was brought to a sudden termination yesterday. Sir Edward Clarke, Counsel for Wilde, asked permission to withdraw the case. The Judge consented, and a verdict of acquittal was then passed. The complainant Wilde was absent from Court. Mr. Edward Carson, who appeared for Lord Queensberry, stated to the Court the day before that he was going to produce absolutely damming evidence against Wilde. A plea of justification for the libel was set up by the defence. Mr. Wilde was submitted to a most searching cross-examination which continued for two days. He denied that he had been guilty of any misconduct, but made certain admissions. An equivocal letter from Mr. Wilde to Lord Alfred Douglas was also read. The demeanour of the witness and the startling admissions which were extracted from him produced an immense sensation.

IN the House of Commons, Mr. Russell, replying to a question, said that he believed the report of the Opium Commission would be presented to the House on the 11th instant. A forecast report published by the *Daily Chronicle* says the abuse of opium is overstated. The natives of India do not use the drug so intemperately as Europeans in India do alcohol. The Commissioners do not favour the forbidding of the growth of the poppy, or making the sale of opium prohibitory, but suggest the introduction of certain regulations and limitations on the traffic in opium, especially with reference to smoking dens.

THE Archbishop of Canterbury has written a letter on the subject of the Ritualist movement in favour of the reunion of the Anglican with the Roman Church. His Grace says that the idea of the corporate reunion of the two Churches, while the Roman Catholic Church retains her erroneous doctrines and advances unscriptural claims, is absolutely visionary.

REFFRRING to our remarks of the 30th March last, on Mir Sultan Saheb, the head clerk in the office of the District Superintendent of Police, Yemethen, a correspondent writes :—

"I may be permitted to tell you that he is in the legitimate line. He is evidently the son of Sultan Iwan Bukht, the youngest and the only surviving son of Bahadoor Shah, who with his wife and mother Zennat Mehal was allowed to share his captivity. The boy was born at Rangoon after the death of Bahadoor Shah. Prince Iwan Bukht was allowed to live outside the jail under Police surveillance. He used to occupy a two storied Bunglow fully furnished, and was attended upon by a lot of Calcutta servants. He used to receive about Rs. 1,200 a month, and his mother Zennat Mehal would occupy another house and receive Rs. 800 a month. This happy change occurred through the good graces of Sir Ashley Eden, who was then the Chief Commissioner of British Burma. In 1874, when I was at Rangoon I occupied a furnished Bungalow opposite the Prince's house. The boy, as I have said, was born at Rangoon and was an exact picture of the noble House of Akbar whose blood ran through his veins. He was educated in the Rangoon High School along with other boys."

Some of the descendants of the ill-fated Bahadur Shah are living at Rangoon on pensions that are ridiculously insufficient. Poor Bahadur Shah was no rebel. More sinned against than sinning, some thing ought surely to be done for rescuing his unfortunate children from misery. The Chief Commissioner of Burma is supposed to be their guardian. But does he know any of them by name? Cannot steps be taken for giving them some education in order to fit them for the duties of life? At any rate, they may be prevented from falling into low and disreputable company. As to Zennat Mehal, notwithstanding what some English historians have said, the noblest associations must always centre round the name. Unique was the example she set to the world of true wifely devotion. In the prime of beauty and youth she cheerfully shared the captivity and exile of a husband old enough to have been her sire or even grandsire. She was the daughter of a Hindu Raja and hence the devotion to her wedded lord.

IN the Statement of Object and Reasons of the Hon'ble Mohini Mohan Roy's Bill to regulate the award of interest in suits for simple money-debts and mortgage-debts, it is said:—

"At present there is an anomaly of practice in our Courts in the matter of awarding interest and there is no limit to the amount up to which interest may be awarded. In a recent case decided by the Calcutta High Court compound interest at 33 per cent. amounted in ten years to 17½ times the principal, or, in other words, the interest was on an average 175 per cent. of the principal per annum. The High Court held that the defendant was bound by 'the bargain which he had entered into,' and stated in its judgment that the rate of interest was not higher than had been allowed in other cases.

The object of this Bill is to remove the existing anomaly of practice and to place a limit upon the award of interest."

The above scarcely explains what the anomaly is in practice. In the case cited, the High Court seems to have only followed its own precedent. Does the Hon'ble Member mean to say that the Judges sometimes give effect to the contracts made between borrowers and lenders and some times rescind them totally or partially? Or, does the anomaly consist in the interest decreed having only exceeded the principal several times? Is this little Bill a precursor of others in the back-ground which will usher those happy times when open attempts on the part of creditors to evade the law against usury led to loss of interest and covert attempts of the kind to loss of both interest and principal? To confer substantial benefit on the Indian borrower, the Hon'ble Mohini Mohan Roy must be prepared to go the whole hog of repealing Act XXVIII. of 1855 and reviving sections 8 and 9 of Regulation XV. of 1793, or he must give up the attempt. The matter is serious. The highest considerations of political economy and statesmanship are involved in such legislation.

AFTER the late accident he had met with at the Somastipore Railway Station, Mr. Skrine, in the interests of the public, had addressed the Engineer in charge of the line. The reply is characteristic.

"The inspection pits have existed as they are at Somastipore for the last 20 years, and you are correct in saying that several Europeans have been victims in stepping into them, the worse case having been that of Mr. Sandford, late Traffic Superintendent of the Railway, who injured his leg, and was laid up for a long time after it. There have been proposals to fill in the pits, but the Locomotive Superintendent considers it necessary to retain them to ensure the safety of the men employed in examining the wheels and axles of the vehicles in passing trains."

So the pits will continue to yawn for their nightly victims without the Railway authorities doing anything. A Traffic Superintendent was not enough, and now a Magistrate and Collector also, it is proved, is not sufficient. Bishops in India are not plentiful as berries, and hence we must have to wait till at least a Provincial Governor is engulphed in one of these pits. Such a consummation will immediately lead to a code of the most careful rules productive of unspeakable benefits to the public. Far be it from us to wish any real injury to gubernatorial limbs even for such a salutary end as the safety of the general public. No. We should like a gentle fall attended with unfractured integrity of limb, total exemption from pain, and a complete absence of everything endangering the prolongation of existence. Judge of the addresses with which such a Governor is sure to be greeted! An actual fall even may not be necessary. A quiet walk, in a forgetful mood, to the edge of one of these pits may bring about all the consequences of which we speak, for the reporters accompanying the Governor may do much by expatiating on the danger incurred and avoided.

LIEUTENANT-GENERAL Sir George Tomkyns Chesney, K. C. B., R. E., is dead. He was educated at Woolwich and joined the Bengal Engineers in 1848. In 1854 he was made Lieutenant. He served throughout the siege of Delhi where he was twice wounded; Captain in 1858; Major in 1872; Lieutenant-Colonel in 1874; Colonel in 1884; and General in 1885. His well-known book, entitled "Indian Polity," was first published in 1868. His famous brochure, "The Battle of Dorking," came out anonymously in 1871. In 1887 General Chesney was made a member of the Council of the Governor-General. He retired in 1891 and, therefore, lived for only four years at home when death seized him for its victim. He was for many years the Principal of Cooper's Hill College, and before that he had served for some years as Principal of the Civil Engineering College, Calcutta. During his early days he was for sometime Controller of Public Works Accounts, Bengal. General Chesney, whatever his speculative opinions regarding the government of India, used to love the people of India. He took an active interest in the English translation of the Mahabharata published by Pratapa Chandra Roy. A short time before his retirement, he passed more than an hour in conversation with the present writer, on the incidents connected with his earlier days. He recollected many Bengali gentlemen, now heads of families, having children and grand-children, who had at one time sat as students at his feet. While Controller of P. W. Accounts, Bengal, General Chesney used to protect the poor Bengali clerks against the petty tyranny of European and Eurasian heads of departments and sections of his office. The General's memory was remarkably good. His intimate acquaintance with the higher branches of mathematics never left him amid even the graver occupations of his later life. He knew the system of Public Works Accounts so well that it was impossible for any clerk to deceive him by a show of work. He was acquainted with the merits of almost every man in his office. He never signed a statement of Accounts without carefully checking it by a comparison with the books from which it was compiled. On one occasion, a native clerk took a statement to Colonel Chesney for his signature. In course of checking it, he believed he had detected an error, and saying as much he was about to score a figure through, when the native clerk who was a very good Accountant and who had himself very carefully done his work, caught his hand, observing,—"Colonel Chesney, not cut, Sir, you are wrong, Sir. I thought it a mistake at first, Sir, but thought it otherwise afterwards, Sir." Colonel Chesney argued the point for a minute, but his original assumption having been wrong, his argument was not right. Babu R————, with the greatest coolness, then said,—"Colonel Chesney, you speak all nonsense, Sir. This is how I came at the figure." Babu R————was an elderly man. Laughing at the Babu's simplicity of demeanour, Colonel Chesney examined the statement with greater care and soon found that his clerk was right. Rising from his chair he shook hands with the elderly man, and complimented him highly, adding that from that time he would think twice before convicting his friend of error. We venture to say that it is not everybody who could put up with a native clerk's arguments backed by a sudden seizure of the hand and such sweet epithets as "you speak all nonsense, Sir," even though the words came from one whose knowledge of English was very limited.

General Chesney owed his success in life to merit alone. He was in the full vigour of his senses when he retired from service. We sincerely condole with those he has left behind.

THE Hon'ble Moulvi Abdul Jubbar, Khan Bahadur, having resigned his seat, Rai Bahadur Durgagati Banerjea, C. I. E, Collector of Stamp Revenue, Superintendent of Excise Revenue, and Deputy Collector of Land Revenue, Calcutta, has been appointed a member of the Bengal Legislative Council. Possessed of administrative experience, the Rai Bahadur fittingly replaces the Khan Bahadur. We hope he will be allowed full latitude to prove his usefulness. Sir Ashley Eden had offered him a seat in his Council when Baboo Banerjea was Personal Assistant to the Commissioner of the Patna Division, but he declined the honour, thinking that he would be more serviceable at Patna than at Calcutta. The translation of Babu Banerjea to the Legislative Council is a disappointment to Moulvi Delwar Hosaen Ahmed, Khan Bahadur, who was sure of the place. He has, however, an agreeable surprise in his new post, that of officiating Inspector-General of Registration, which was Moulvi Abdul Jubbar Khan Bahadur's due, but who was not allowed to retire in that capacity. The objection stated was that he had exceeded the official limit of age and, under the rules, no new appointment could be his. The present incumbent suffers under the same disability about being confirmed in the post, for he is already on extension.

The Indian Association for the Cultivation of Science.

210, Bow-Bazar Street, Calcutta.

(Session 1894-95.)

Lecture by D. N. Chatterjee, B. A., M. B, C. M., on Wednesday, the 10th Inst., at 5 30 P. M. *Subject:* "Circulation." (continued).

Lecture by Dr. Nilratan Sarkar, M. A., M. D., on Thursday, the 11th Inst., at 5-30 P. M. *Subject:* Histology "Endothelium."

Admission Fee, Rs. 4 for Physics, and Rs. 4 for Chemistry; Rs. 6 for both Physics and Chemistry; Rs. 4 for Physiology; Rs. 4 for General Biology; Rs. 6 for complete course of Physiology and Biology. The charge for a single lecture is 2 Annas.

MAHENDRA LAL SIRCAR, M.D,
April 6, 1895. *Honorary Secretary.*

REIS & RAYYET.

Saturday, April 6, 1895.

THE BUDGET DEBATE.

THE debate on the Budget is of interest from more than one point of view. Sir James Westland was in the happy position of having presented a more satisfactory statement of the finances than had been anticipated. Accordingly, felicitations, which he so well deserved, poured in from every side. What a contrast to the memorable Budget debate of last year on the cotton duties and the peculiar obligations of "official consciences" on that question! That unhappy situation is past, and to Sir James has been given to restore those duties and remove the strain on the consciences. A year of surplus, however moderate the surplus may be, is, again, no small thing with the exchange ruling so low. This is the more satisfactory as being due to economies in the Military and Civil expenditure for which the Finance Minister's efforts are worthy of all praise. The result, however, is not less due to the cotton duties about which his efforts have been not less laudably persistent. The Budget of 1895-96 in regard to these duties embodies an act of justice to India for which, however tardy, the Government deserves well of the people. Our sentiments of gratefulness for this would have been more unmixed if it were not for the countervailing excise duty on Indian cotton goods. In view of the actual situation, our hope is that the Secretary of State may raise the line of exemption to counts of 24's instead of 20. On the necessity of this there was a strong expression of opinion in the course of the debate. The decision of Mr. Fowler is awaited with keen anxiety.

Of the speaking in the Council, the opening speech of the Hon. H. E. James is a most interesting account of the achievements of the Indian Post Office. It is a most popular Department which has always been above the altercation of political strife, and it has gone on improving in diverse ways by leaps and bounds. Mr. James, however, had still greater improvements in view, and he put in a powerful plea for the Department being treated in the future as it has been in the past, namely, as existing for public convenience, and not as a source of public revenue. The great expansion the Post Office has made and the development of its usefulness in so many directions, are due to this principle, and he prayed that there might be no departure from it, at any rate till his entire programme of postal reform were

realized. Mr. James put in his plea for his Department in such good spirit that it was at once accepted on the part of the Financial Department.

Sir Griffith Evans made, as usual, a capital speech, by which he fully maintained his reputation as the champion of public interests. He briefly touched on all the points upon which public opinion has been at issue with the Government as well as loudly expressed of late. After congratulating the Government on the expenditure having been kept within the income, as well as on the decision to pay the expenses of the Opium Commission out of the English Exchequer, which he hoped, would be a wholesome lesson to those incorrigible faddists who were hard to deal with, he emphasized the necessity for looking more closely into the Home Charges. The justice of the demand for the excise duty being fixed at 24's had also his support, while, in referring to the Chitral expedition in the terms he did, he only reflected the voice of public opinion. Without intending to embarrass the hands of Government, Sir G. Evans said that there was a very uneasy feeling abroad that they were having too many expeditions of late years, and that whenever the Finance Minister seemed to be getting his head above water, then one of these expeditions was undertaken which soon got his head down again. He contended that more care and forethought were needed to prevent such complications as resulted in no manner of good. They often arose from light-heartedness on the part of young political officers who required a strong hand for keeping them down. These remarks elicited a frank explanation from the Viceroy who entered at some length into the circumstances which have made the present resort to arms necessary.

The Hon'ble Mr. Playfair spoke with ability from the mercantile point of view. Among other things, he laid great stress on the importance of buying stores locally or through local agency. The Government, however, could not hold forth any hope in that direction, the Finance Minister being of opinion that the payment of middlemen here was not likely to be of advantage to the Government. Truly, the question is not so easy as the Finance Minister thinks. Even with regard to articles manufactured in England, the Government may purchase them with advantage from middlemen in India. Manufacturers have two prices, one for wholesale purchasers and another for ordinary ones. Many English manufacturers, again, have Indian Agents who are capable of selling at rates that are even a trifle less than the rates charged at home *plus* the costs of transit. The charge, again, of keeping up an establishment at home for executing the orders of the Indian Government should be taken into consideration. Even if the Indian Government gain nothing in the form of direct saving by patronising middlemen in India, still the indirect advantages that accrue from fostering Indian mercantile houses and traders, deserve to be reckoned. The rule should be strictly followed of never purchasing in England any article that is manufactured in India and that is capable of being purchased here at a price even equal to the English price *plus* the costs of transit.

The speech of the day was, we may say, Mr. Phirozesha Mehta's. It was an eloquent deliverance with the ring of true patriotism. It presented the view popularly taken of the financial administration of the Empire, and no wonder that in these days of official touchiness it fell on the Council like a bombshell. It produced no small dissatisfaction among the official members of the Council, several of whom, Sir Charles Elliott in particular, spoke in strong disapprobation. To us, this betokens an impatience of criticism which was seldom discovered by officials before. Far stronger things have been said in Council by independent non-official and even by independent official members without creating half the excitement Mr. Mehta produced on the present occasion. Mr. Mehta pointed to such names as those of Sir David Barbour and Sir Auckland Colvin as keeping him in countenance. But to no avail. It is, however, significant that, in spite of all that ministers in office say of economy in the administration of finances, the moment they are out of office, they tell a different story. They deplore, as Sir Auckland has done, the continual drain on the exchequer by all the spending Departments. Sir James Westland's statistics of the economies effected were, however, somewhat re-assuring.

The Viceroy's speech was in the main a reply to Sir G. Evans's remarks on the Chitral expedition. For thus taking the public into his confidence Lord Elgin deserves our acknowledgments. For the rest, he gave full support to the Finance Department and joined in the felicitations of his Finance Minister. Sir James's labours in connection with the Conversion of the Loans were particularly extolled by the Viceroy.

HYDERABAD.

In one of our recent issues we gave a picture of the bright side of Nawab Vicar-ul-Omra's character. On the present occasion, we purpose to have a look at the other side of it, and then discuss some of the principal features of his administration. The chief defect in Nawab Vicar-ul-Omra's character is want of strength. Nothing, indeed, is more necessary to an administrator than strength of character. Without it, no man, however gifted, can ever win success in the difficult work of administration. Nawab Vicar-ul-Omra, while wanting in strength of character, also lacks judgment. He is intelligent, but his intelligence is not of that kind which enables one to grasp a knotty or intricate question without the help of others. Then, again, although outwardly frank and open, he is naturally of a suspicious mind. Unable, therefore, to place entire confidence in any single person, he is obliged to surround himself with many counsellors. As a matter of fact, he has more than half a dozen *confidential advisers*, of different creeds and nationalities, who are all jealous of one another and every one of whom always advises against the advice of every one else! Of the long line of Prime Ministers we read of in English history, no one was more ignorant of general history and geography than the Duke of Newcastle. His surprise was very great upon learning that Cape Breton was an island. While announcing the English victory at Annapolis in Parliament, he could not explain in what part of the world Annapolis was. Yet, as a Prime Minister, the Duke of Newcastle was not a failure. He had the extraordinary faculty of at once selecting the right man who was to coach him on the particular question of the hour. Amid diverse kinds of counsels offered to him by others, he could unerringly select those which were right and marked by true statesmanship. Nawab Vicar-ul-Omra, though much better informed in many respects than the Duke of Newcastle, is inferior to the Duke in the matter of selecting the advice that he is to follow. Decision of character

can never go hand-in-hand with suspiciousness of temperament. The next noticeable feature in Nawab Vicar-ul-Omra's character is that he is wanting in foresight, and his reckless extravagance, which has long become notorious, may be considered as largely due to this natural defect in him. Among the minor traits in his character may be mentioned his impulsiveness, unsteadiness, selfishness, love of ease, and want of application. We have taken the liberty to disclose these features because, we believe, they have a direct bearing on the work of administration. We have no business to look into his private moral character, and so shall not pry into that preserve.

Let us now examine some of the principal measures of the administration. Nawab Vicar-ul-Omra commenced his career as Prime Minister by trampling under foot the *Kanuncha Mobaruk* of the Nizam, and knocking the Cabinet Council on the head. A short while before the overthrow of Sir Asman Jah's Ministry, the Nizam passed certain rules for the better administration of the State. Those rules were called *Kanuncha Mobaruk* It was in conformity with them that the Cabinet Council was established. That Council, as originally formed, was, with the Prime Minister as President, composed of the four Muin-ul-Mahams or Departmental Ministers, *viz.*, the Revenue Minister, the Military Minister, the Judicial Minister and the Police and Public Works Minister. The Revenue Minister was also the Vice-President of the Council. During the absence of the Prime Minister, the Vice-President was empowered to preside. Nawab Vicar-ul-Omra was the Revenue Minister, and as such he was also Vice-President of the Council. This was the main feature of the constitution of the Cabinet Council. On the elevation of Nawab Vicar-ul-Omra to the office of Prime Minister, it was expected that a nobleman of the highest rank would be appointed his successor in the Council. But instead of appointing a new Revenue Minister, a Revenue Board was established, composed of two members, Mr. Dunlop, Inspector General of Revenue being the Senior Member, and Nawab Muktadir Jung, Revenue Secretary, the Junior Member. But, curiously enough, though the Revenue Board has been established in place of the Revenue Minister, it has not been formally invested with all the powers of the latter. The Board is directly responsible to the Prime Minister, so that, as matters stand at present, Nawab Vicar-ul-Omra practically combines in himself the functions of Revenue Minister as well as those of Prime Minister. It will be remembered that the Cabinet Council was established with the chief object of dividing the responsibilities of the Prime Minister. But the very first thing that Nawab Vicar-ul-Omra did on assuming the office of Prime Minister was a deliberate and positive move towards the destruction of that Council There was absolutely no necessity for a Revenue Board. It has only added a fifth wheel to the coach of administration. Instead of simplifying, it has only complicated matters. It has increased expenditure and increased the responsibilities of the Prime Minister. What is most to be regretted is, that it has emasculated the Cabinet Council. By the reduction of its numerical strength, the Council has been weakened. The President, by his casting vote, can carry through any measure if he can manage to secure only one vote in his support, and he, we are told, can always count upon one such vote from the Police Minister. The other two members, Rajah Kishen Prasad, the Military Minister, and Nawab Fakhr-ul-Mulk, the Judicial Minister, are the most independent and active Members of the Council. Gifted with great intelligence and endowed with proper culture, they can think for themselves and have the courage of their convictions. They are incapable of surrendering their judgment hoodwinked. They are sure to oppose the Prime Minister on any question in which they may not agree with him. But however strong and just their opposition, it can be of no avail in the Council for the reason mentioned above. It is plain, therefore, that the Prime Minister is now supreme in the Cabinet Council, and the Council is only a nonentity. It should also be mentioned that the Council is without a Vice-President.

The Revenue is surely the most important department in the administration. Its range and scope will be apparent from the following sub-departments into which it is divided :—Land Revenue ; Revenue Settlement ; Inams ; Customs ; Abkari ; Forests ; Agriculture and Commerce ; Stamps ; Mint ; Cattle-breeding ; Local Fund. Each of these sub-departments is placed under a separate official with the designation of "Subadar," "Commissioner," "Director General," and so forth. The salaries of these officials vary from Rs. 1,200 to Rs. 2,000 a month They were all, according to the rules of the Cabinet Council, formerly held responsible to the Revenue Minister. Previous to the establishment of the Board, the Revenue Minister used to place all important matters connected with the administration of his department before the Council for settlement. The Prime Minister could not have his own way in any matter. All that is changed now. There being no Revenue Minister, Revenue matters are no longer placed before the Cabinet Council, and the Prime Minister is all in all in this most important branch of the administration. Such being the case, we fail to see the use of keeping up this sham of a Council at so much cost to the State. The question is, what was the reason of not appointing a Revenue Minister? Was it owing to the absence of a suitable person for that important office? No. We are informed, the Nizam ordered, immediately after the vacancy had occurred, that Nawab Zuffer Jung Bahadur, son of the Premier Noble, Nawab Sir Khurshed Jah, and nephew of His Highness, as well as of the Prime Minister, be appointed. Nawab Zaffur Jung Bahadur is by far the best specimen of the younger generation of the Hyderabad nobility. By birth, intelligence, education and character, he is well fitted to occupy a place in the Cabinet Council. His appointment as a Muin-ul-Maham would have given general satisfaction to the Hyderabad public. Why was not His Highness's order given effect to? Why? Because, we are told, the order was suppressed somewhere! Inscrutable are the ways of Hyderabad officials. In the place of the Revenue Minister, a Revenue Board was established. We have also seen how Nawab Vicar-ul-Omra has increased his own powers by establishing the Revenue Board, and reducing those of the Cabinet Council. But he has served another purpose by this measure. He has raised Mr. Dunlop to a position to which that gentleman could never have otherwise attained. As a European, Mr. Dunlop could not be made a member of the Cabinet Council, for the *Kanuncha Mobaruk* strictly enjoins that no European is to be appointed as Secretary to the Cabinet Council, far less a Member of it. But by appointing Mr. Dunlop as the Senior Member of the Revenue

Board, the Prime Minister has made him virtually the head of the Revenue Department, responsible only to himself, but not to the Cabinet Council, and so made his position almost equal to that of a Muin-ul-Maham. Mr. Dunlop is also one of the chief advisers of His Excellency, and is said to have acquired great influence over him He is reported to be an able man possessing much experience in Revenue matters. But whatever his ability and experience, his appointment as the head of the Revenue Department is not viewed with approval by the people of Hyderabad. Indeed, Nawab Vicar-ul-Omra has incurred much public odium by this appointment. Mr. Dunlop was formerly in the private service of Nawab Vicar-ul-Omra, and a great favorite. It is believed that kindness to Mr. Dunlop was one of the causes that led to the establishment of the Revenue Board. Whatever the reason, the establishment of the Revenue Board has destroyed the vitality of the Cabinet Council.

It is in connection with the recent changes that the helplessness of the Cabinet Council is to be most regretted. The Council was not even consulted in regard to those changes. Nawab Fakhr-ul-Mulk is the Judicial Minister. He is responsible for the Judicial administration of the country. But with regard to the recent changes in the High Court and in the Judicial Secretariat, both of which are directly under him, he was not only not consulted, but was studiously kept in the dark. The Judicial Minister did not know anything of the changes in the Judicial Department until they became accomplished facts!

THE HIGH COURT *VS.* THE POLICE COURT.

The Chief Justice Sir Comer Petheram and Mr. Justice Beverley have made absolute the two rules issued by them against the Honorary Magistrates Mr. N. N. Mitra and Nawab Ashgar Ali Diler Jung, one to shew cause why the conviction of Mr. Palit should not be set aside, and another to aside a proceeding of the Magistrates calling on Mr. Cranenburgh to shew cause why he should not be prosecuted for perjury. The Judges take the ordinary view that Mr. Palit should not have been pursued to the bitter end. They hold that the apology, such as it was, should have been accepted and the matter allowed to drop. Mr. Palit's conviction being quashed, the order in the matter of Mr. Cranenburgh necessarily follows. We give below the two judgments. The Chief Justice remarks,—"The Magistrates have convicted Mr. Palit, acting, as it seems to us, not on the testimony of the witness who was called and examined by them, but on their own recollection of what they heard Mr. Palit say." In justice to the Magistrates, it must be said that the witness called and examined by them, that is, the Bench Clerk, had heard what they themselves remembered hearing, namely, that Mr. Palit had used the insulting words—"It is a misfortune that you are a Court at all." Mr. Cranenburgh's recollection was different. But he was the witness, as the judgment, a few lines before, says, for the defence, and examined on behalf of Mr. Palit by Mr. Hill. In the whole course of the wrangle, Mr. Palit, while not remembering that he had used the words charged to him, did not say what words he had used, which if he had done or if Mr. Cranenburgh could see his way to inform the Court the first day what he had heard, it is likely the matter would have dropped then and there. It is to be remarked that the judgment takes no exception to the procedure adopted by the Magistrates. Much was made of it by the Counsel for Mr. Palit. They called it irregular and denied the power of the Magistrates to try their client on the second day. Evidently the High Court accepts the explanation of the Magistrates that they had the power to try Mr. Palit for contempt under section 482, Criminal Procedure Code, and that section 555, on which the defence had relied so much, was no bar. We wish the High Court had clearly expressed itself on these points, for future guidance of Magistrates. Without going into them, it thinks that the Magistrates should not have allowed the matter to drag into unpleasant lengths. The judgment seems to say, the Magistrates might have accepted Mr. Cranenburgh's version and let the non-remembering Counsel go. The triumph of Mr. Palit is complete. His opposing Pleader had deposed in his favour. The Bar had made common cause with him, and the High Court Bench upholds him.

The only other case of contempt occurring in the Police Court which we can remember, was in the Court of the Northern Division Magistrate, Mr. Ameer Ali, now a Judge of the High Court. The offender was a ship Captain and was tried by the other stipendiary Magistrate and two Honorary Magistrates forming a Bench. The Captain offered to apologize. He was allowed to make his apology to the forwarding or committing Magistrate. That Magistrate, however, without expressing himself in any way as to the sufficiency or insufficiency of the regret expressed by the Captain, left the matter entirely at the hands of the Bench. The Bench convicted the Captain and fined him the maximum amount allowed by the law, namely, Rupees one thousand, in lieu of imprisonment which, the Magistrates thought, he had deserved but which they would not order as his ship would be sailing the same day. The High Court confirmed the conviction but reduced the fine to Rupees two hundred.

MR. T. PALIT'S CASE.

The Chief Justice.—This rule was obtained to set aside a conviction by two Honorary Presidency Magistrates, both barristers of considerable standing, of Mr. Palit, another barrister of considerable standing, of the offence of insulting them while sitting in judicial proceedings. The offence is created by section 228 of the Indian Penal Code, and the sentence passed on Mr. Palit was that he pay a fine of Rs. 20, or in default suffer one week's simple imprisonment. The matter arises out of a most unseemly wrangle which took place on the 20th of February in the Police Court between the two presiding magistrates and Mr. Palit, in the course of which it is evident that at least one of the magistrates and Mr. Palit became angry and excited, and certainly did not treat each other with the courtesy and respect which the public have a right to look for in gentlemen of their position and experience when engaged in their public duties. In the course of a case in which he was engaged Mr. Palit was charged by the magistrates with having, some fifteen minutes before the charge was made, used an insulting expression towards them, and they called upon Mr. Palit to withdraw it. Mr. Palit said that he did not remember using the expression, and afterwards himself, and through his counsel, assured the magistrates that they had misunderstood him, and that the words which he had used were different to those which they thought they had heard; but added that had he said what the magistrates had understood him to say it would have been most improper conduct on his part, and that if he had done it he would withdraw the expressions and apologise for having used them. This the magistrates refused to accept and, as Mr. Palit refused to plead guilty, proceeded on the 26th to try him themselves for the offence with which they charged him. The evidence in support of the charge was, we think, taken in such a way as to be very unsatisfactory, and Mr. Cranenburgh, a wellknown Pleader of the Police Court, was called for the defence. He said that he was engaged in the case in opposition to Mr. Palit and that what he heard was what Mr. Palit says himself he remembers saying, and not what the magistrates understood him to say. Notwithstanding this the magistrates have convicted Mr. Palit, acting, as it seems to us, not on the testimony of the witness who was called and examined by them, but on their own recollection of what they heard Mr. Palit say. We do not think that a conviction arrived at in such a way can be maintained. As I have said before, it is manifest that an angry discussion was going on at the time which would render it possible or even probable that an expression used by one person might be misunderstood by another, and under such circumstances we do not think it possible to convict a person of a criminal offence for using particular words, when he insisted at the time, and has always insisted, that he was misunderstood, and when a disinterested bystander swears that he heard the words used and understood them to bear a totally different meaning to that which the magistrates have attached to them. We must add that when Mr. Palit said that he did not remember using such words, but that if he did so he acted improperly and withdrew them and apologised, he did all which he could be reasonably

expected to do, and that that expression should have been accepted and the matter allowed to drop. The rule will be made absolute to set aside the conviction. The fine must be refunded.

MR. D. E. CRANENBURGH'S CASE.

The Chief Justice.---This case arises out of the same facts as those which we have just considered in the last case. This rule was obtained to set aside a proceeding of these magistrates calling upon Mr. Cranenburgh to show cause why he should not be prosecuted for perjury, and we think that the rule must be made absolute. In doing so we need only say that we see no grounds whatever for supposing that Mr. Cranenburgh was not stating the words as he understood them, or for thinking that it is possible that a prosecution could result in a conviction under such circumstances. The rule will be made absolute.

CHITRAL.

THE VICEREGAL LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, THE BUDGET DEBATE, MARCH 28.

His Excellency the President said :---I am afraid that I cannot gratify the curiosity of the Hon. Mr. Mehta and add to the information, which he seems to have obtained from some unknown source, of what takes place when the Council of the Governor-General meets in this chamber without the Additional Members who give their assistance in making Laws and Regulations. Even with the explanation of the Hon. Sir James Westland, I must not be taken as admitting the accuracy of this information ; but in any case the Hon. Financial Member speaks here as the representative of the Government on the general financial position. It is therefore no part of my duty to do more than to emphasise the fact that is apparent from the speeches of the Hon. Member and Sir Henry Brackenbury, and from the events that have taken place elsewhere, that the Government of India and Her Majesty's Government are thoroughly in accord in promoting and maintaining the measures which the necessities of India may require.

There is only one section of the General Financial Statement on which I wish to say a word, and that is the section beginning with paragraph 59, dealing with the conversion of the 4 per cent. Debt. The Hon. Mr. Playfair has, I think, expressed the public appreciation of the success of this operation, which has resulted in a large saving to the Imperial Revenues, and has been carried out in a manner calculated not only to ensure success, but to cause as little inconvenience as might be to individuals, or to the money market.

The Hon. Financial Member in paragraph 74 has conveyed to the Banks the thanks which are undoubtedly due to them for their exertions. There was no word which he could not add. I think I ought to say that her Majesty's Government left the conduct of this matter to the Government of India, and have recorded in a despatch lately received their high appreciation of the manner in which the work has been done by the Financial Department, and especially by the Member in charge. I know that the Hon. Member modestly attributes much to a good opportunity ; but it is not every one who knows how to use a good opportunity well ; and as one who has stood by and seen every stage, I think it my duty to bear witness to the tact, resolution, and knowledge displayed in this business by my hon. colleague and his chief co-adjutor, Mr. Jacob.

There is one other subject which has been referred to in this discussion on which I have something to say. The Hon. Sir Griffith Evans called attention to the Chitral Expedition in terms to which I wish to take no objection. I recognise that he speaks with no intention of embarrassing the Government ; and I am sure he will appreciate my observation that, while it is easy for him to put general questions and raise questions of general policy, it is quite a different thing for me to follow him over all the ground that he has covered.

It is desirable that the position of the Government of India in Chitral should be clearly understood. So long ago as 1876 the Maharaja of Kashmir was permitted to accept the Chitral Mehtar's offer of suzerainty, and the Government of India then undertook to afford countenance and material aid to Kashmir in the defence or maintenance of this arrangement. This pledge has been repeated to Kashmir and also directly to the late Mehtar of Chitral. The Kashmir State and the Government of India have both for years granted annual subsidies to the ruler of Chitral. When the British Agency at Gilgit was withdrawn in 1881, the Kashmir State was assured that the Government of India nevertheless adhered to their policy with regard to Chitral. This policy has been to accept the *de facto* Mehtar, provided he could maintain his position and accepted the suzerainty of Kashmir.

One of the consequences of the re establishment of the Gilgit Agency in 1889 has been that the legitimate influence of the British Government has been maintained by the presence in Chitral territory of an officer, who is an Assistant to the British Agent at Gilgit, with a small escort of regular troops supported by garrisons at Gupis and Ghizr in Yasin. His head-quarters have been at Mastuj, but he has been in the habit of visiting the Mehtar at Chitral This arrangement has been cordially acquiesced in by successive Mehtars. The late Mehtar would have preferred to keep the British officer permanently with him in Chitral itself ; but the Government of India declined to increase more than necessary the unavoidable risks of the position.

It was foreseen that in case a British officer were in Chitral, and should Nizam-ul-Mulk come to an untimely end in spite of his presence, his position would be one of extreme danger.

At the time of the murder of Nizam-ul-Mulk in January last, Lieutenant Gurdon, the Political Officer, was on a visit to Chitral with an escort of only ten men. By great prudence and tact he avoided any collision with Amir-ul-Mulk and his party, and the arrival of a reinforcement of fifty men from Mastuj enabled him to maintain his position till he was joined on February 1st by Mr. Robertson, the British Agent at Gilgit.

That Lieutenant Gurdon's position was one of danger was realised by Mr. Robertson and by the Government of India from the moment that they received the news of Nizam-ul-Mulk's murder. It was impossible for him to withdraw with safety On January 8th Mr. Robertson wrote to Lieutenant Gurdon .---"If there is any prospect of trouble, sit tight and send off urgent messengers to Mastuj and Ghizr, and do not commit yourself and your escort to that terrible road along the left bank of the river between Mastuj and Chitral." Recent events have only too terribly confirmed the wisdom of that advice. It was therefore essential that he should be supported or relieved in some manner. It was also considered by the Government to be desirable that Mr. Robertson should go to Chitral to endeavour to bring about a peaceful solution of the succession---a very difficult task, for which his experience specially qualified him. He was instructed to report to the Government of India what claimant would be most acceptable to the people.

All this was in the regular course of business. But at this point Umra Khan appeared on the scene, perhaps as a partner in the plot for the murder of the Mehtar, but, at all events, as an aggressor, who laid siege to the frontier fort of Kila Drosh. There is no community between the people of Bajaur and the tribes subject to the Mehtar of Chitral, who are different in race, in sentiment, and in character. Umra Khan has entertained for some years past aggressive designs upon Chitral, and has openly acknowledged his enmity with the ruling family. The Government of India have had on several occasions since 1891 to warn Umra Khan that aggression in Chitral would be regarded with disfavour. Umra Khan could make no pretence of a right to interfere in the Chitral succession. He had acknowledged the relative positions of Chitral and the Government of India when in 1890 he himself applied to the Government of India to mediate between him and Chitral in regard to their respective claims to land, which, however, he subsequently occupied by force when the old Mehtar, Aman-ul-Mulk, died in 1892. On the occasion of making his present invasion into Chitral territory he represented, in writing, to the officers of the Government that he had no design of interfering in the business of Government, but that Amir-ul-Mulk had opposed his wishes, and he had been compelled to become his enemy. Still the fact remains that it was in defiance of warnings that he came, and it is in defiance of renewed warnings that he still remains.

Umra Khan was joined about the 24th of February by Sher Afzal. This man is a brother of the former Mehtar Aman-ul-Mulk, and therefore uncle to the last two rulers. He had long been a refugee from Chitral in Badakshan, whence he made a sudden raid on Chitral in November, 1892, killed his nephew Afzal ul-Mulk and usurped the power. His rule was short, for when Nizam-ul-Mulk advanced on December 1st 1892, he had not sufficient support to hold his own, and fled to Kabul, whence he has now re-appeared as a claimant for the Mehtarship. There is reason to believe that he has by no means the unanimous support of the people, but under certain circumstances he might have proved an acceptable candidate. He has, however, come with the open support of Umra Khan, has identified himself with the defiance of the Government of India, and has sent an insolent letter to the British Agent requiring the withdrawal of all British officers from Chitral, and threatening an advance of Umra Khan's troops should they not be withdrawn.

It has been necessary to say this much to enable a just view to be formed of the circumstances. Mr. Robertson, in the exercise of his duty as the representative of the Suzerain Power, is present in Chitral. Under all ordinary circumstances the forces and supplies at Gilgit would have sufficed for the maintenance of peace and of our proper influence and position. But the circumstances are not normal ; the presence of Umra Khan has disturbed the calculations on which the existing arrangements were based. I can best describe the effect of the invasion in Mr. Robertson's own words. Writing from Mastuj on January 28th he said :---"Umra Khan invested Kila Drosh on the 26th, and has effected a complete change in the situation. All Chitralis are united to resist Umra Khan." In the same letter he said :---"Gurdon cannot withdraw from Chitral without our help ; and if he made any sign of retiring, we should be mobbed and overwhelmed by crowds of

fugitives. Chitral is in a state of panic. We cannot get to Chitral before the 31st.

"Umra Khan is credited with a desire to arrest Gurdon--by some people. When we get to Chitral, the situation is not much better, except that Gurdon will be safe.

"If Umra Khan advances rapidly with the most overwhelming force, even then we can hardly retire with prudence; the road is so terribly bad.

"Supplies, if they can be purchased, cannot be brought in at present, as all men are away fighting. My present idea, subject to subsequent alteration or modification, is to try and get to Chitral and hold the fort there, to the bitter end if necessary. If Umra Khan fails at Kila Drosh, or makes no further advance, it is only the supply question which should then trouble us."

The fall of Kila Drosh still further accentuated the difficulty. Up till then Mr. Robertson had, after reaching Chitral, maintained most scrupulously the attitude of non-interference prescribed by his instructions, in spite of repeated requests from the Chitralis. But when Umra Khan had thus committed himself to an act of open hostility, the Government of India felt that, however unwilling they might be to recognise Amir-ul-Mulk as Mehtar, he was there *de facto*, and they were bound to authorise Mr. Robertson to give the Chitralis such material and moral support as was necessary to repel the invaders; and they at the same time gave orders for the reinforcement of the various garrisons so far as troops were available in the Gilgit District. I was a little sorry to hear the remark made by the Hon. Member, which might be taken---though I am sure he did not so mean it---as somewhat disparaging to our officers in the Gilgit District. I have before me a list of those officers; and it contains many names of men who, though perhaps comparatively young, have seen much service of the kind they are now called upon to perform, and have been specially selected for the present duty. We are not able at present to write the history of recent events; but we do know that in a moment of emergency Lieutenant Gurdon, one of these officers, not only kept his head, but showed a courage and resource that would have done credit to the most experienced. I should also mention that Colonel Kelly, commanding the Pioneer Regiment, the senior officer, is now in military command. The orders for the reinforcement of the garrisons issued from Calcutta on February 19th, before Sher Afzal had appeared on the scene, and when the matter before Mr. Robertson and the Government of India was the rendering of assistance to Chitral in protecting the country from an invader---not the support of one candidate against another.

It soon became apparent that further measures were necessary; and when, after March 1st, all communication with Mr. Robertson ceased, the Government of India were forced to review the position. Shortly it was this, that Mr. Robertson, our duly accredited Agent, who had been obliged to push on to Chitral, as I have stated, by the paramount necessity of securing Lieutenant Gurdon's safety, was himself cut off by some agency of which we knew little, but which could scarcely be other than hostile. We knew that Mr. Robertson did not regard himself in any immediate danger. He held the fort, a strong position, with about three hundred men, and he said that any attack on the fort was "as improbable as its accomplishment would be impossible;" but his communications being cut, any attempt to replenish his supplies was a very difficult operation---how difficult and dangerous has since been seen. The Government of India were bound by every consideration to relieve their officers from such a position which, if not of immediate, was certainly one of proximate, danger.

Now, reinforcements could not be sent by Kashmir and Gilgit, because the passes are closed by snow until June at earliest, when it would be too late to relieve Mr. Robertson by that circuitous route. There was but one alternative --an advance from Peshawar; and the hostile combination of Umra Khan and Sher Afzal gave an additional justification for its adoption.

Jandol lies between British India and Chitral on the only road open at this time of the year, and the Government of India have come very reluctantly to the conclusion that as Umra Khan will not listen to remonstrances, but persists in a course which must result in danger to Mr. Robertson and his party, they have a duty which they must perform, and that is by entering his territory to compel him to look to his own affairs.

On the best information available the Government believed that Mr. Robertson's supplies ought to suffice till about the end of April, and the orders for the collection of transport, issued on March 7th, were calculated to enable his relief to be effected by that time. Subsequent arrangements have been made with the same object.

I have no doubt that Hon. Members will agree that the disaster to Captain Ross's party in their attempt to reach Chitral from Mastuj has made it apparent that these orders were not issued a day too soon, and has established the necessity of the expedition.

It may be desirable to indicate the considerations which have determined the strength of the force which is being mobilised. The Government of India have proclaimed to the tribes along the Peshawar border the object with which this expedition will go forth, and that their independence is absolutely assured; and it is hoped that their concurrence will be obtained. But the Government of India cannot shut their eyes to the fact that they have to secure a long and difficult line of communications, and they are of opinion that in the interests of peace this must be held in great strength Any resistance offered not merely to the fighting line, but to it. supports or convoys, might leave behind fresh grounds of quarrel--s and the Government of India, while they must push on to their goal and insist, by force if necessary, upon the removal of the hostile aggression which menaces their officers in Chitral, desire, above all things, to avoid any step which may lead to any extension of the frontiers of British India, or any interference with the independence of the tribes. For the attainment of these objects, it is necessary not only to use every effort to convince the tribes of our friendly intentions to them, but also to advance, now that an advance has become inevitable, in such force as to make it evident that any hostility on their part could be instantly and effectually crushed.

I hope that Hon. Members will admit that, in laying before them the information in my possession and the object of the Government, I have spoken with the utmost frankness. I am not going to obscure what I have endeavoured to make clear by being drawn into a disquisition on frontier policy which might not in any event be very appropriate in this Council---certainly never so inappropriate as now. For the present we have before us a single issue---the claim of brave men, British and Indian, who have not flinched in the performance of their duty, to the support of their countrymen in their hour of need. It is a claim that I believe will go straight home to every British and Indian heart, that will inspire our counsels with unanimity, and will quicken the step of every man whose duty calls him forth on this expedition.

"KISS ME, JACK, AND LET ME GO."

ONCE, long ago, I was witness to a duel in California. The two men had been bosom friends, but had quarelled about (of course) a woman. Splendid follows both—young, brainy, and ambitious. As they stood in a clear space among the pine trees near Scramento, pale as lilies, steady as rocks, weapons in hand waiting for the word, the rising sun shining athwart the line of vision, they presented a picture too often seen in 1856. The pistols cracked almost simultaneously. One man stood erect, evidently untouched; the other fell upon his back and lay straight and still. Seconds, surgeons, and spectators rushed to his side. He was "all there," mind as well as body. "No, don't disturb me," he said coolly to the doctor, "I'm shot fatally and shall die in five minutes. Call Jack and be quick." Pistol still in hand, his antagonist came and bent over his erstwhile chum. The excitement among the crowd was intense; the dying man alone was calm. "Jack, my darling old boy," he said, "forgive *me* and forgive *her*. Kiss me and let me go." A minute more and he was dead, with Jack lying across his body, crying like a baby.

After I have told you another and very different story, I'll show wherein they teach the same lesson.

There is no tragedy in this one; nevertheless it is of wider human interest than the other. A woman had been ill more or less all her life. The details are commonplace enough, and yet they will appeal to millions who care nothing for the jealousies of young men of love.

"At times," she says, I suffered from pains at the back of the head, and a sense of weight, and felt tired and weary, yet it was not from work only. I had a strange feeling, too, of something hanging over me, as of some evil or danger that I could not explain or define.

My appetite was variable; sometimes I could eat anything and again I could not touch any food at all. *But I was never laid up as it were.*"

Please note the last sentence. It may seem like the weakest but really is the strongest point in this lady's statement. We will tell you why in a moment.

She goes on: "Still I was often in misery, but got along fairly well until August, 1890, when I had a severe attack of rheumatism. First the great toe of my right foot and the thumb of my right hand grew hot and painful. After a time the trouble extended to my back and hips. I could not straighten myself; I was almost bent double. Month after month I was like this, getting little or no sleep at night. Medical treatment proved of no benefit to me. In December, 1891, *the pain almost drove me mad.* My face was swollen to nearly twice its natural size, and my eyes were so covered by the enlarged lids that I could scarcely see. There was a constant ringing in my ears, and the doctors said I had erysipelas.

"For days and days I could not walk across the floor, and for some time I was able to move about only by taking hold of the furniture or other objects. When all other means had been tried and had failed, Mother Seigel's Curative Syrup was recommended to me. A single bottle did me a deal of good. I kept on with it, and soon was stronger and in better health than for forty years previously. I still take an occasional dose and continue in good health notwithstanding my age (48), and the 'change of life.' I tell everyone what the Syrup has done for me, and give you permission to publish what I have said. Yours truly (Signed), (Mrs.) MARY JANE MILNES, 18, Walker's Buildings, Brewery Lane, Thornhill Lees, near Dewsbury, Yorkshire, October 12th, 1892."

Now for the lesson of both these incidents; what is it? This; that it is not people in desperate extremities who suffer most. Pain is in proportion to the resistance to disease. Those who surrender, who are in despair, who give up, have present punishment largely remitted. Dying persons are the most comfortable of all. Hopelessness and dissolution administer their own anodynes. Those who are *not laid up*, who are ill, and yet work and struggle, need pity and help. This lady was one, and to such Mother Seigel always proves a friend.

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VOL. XIV. CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, APRIL 27, 1895. WHOLE NO. 672.

CONTEMPORARY POETRY.

THE LIFE OF THE SEA.

BY B. SIMMON[illegible]

"A very intelligent young lady, born and [illegible]ed in the Orkney islands, who lately came to spend a season in this neighbourhood, told me nothing in the mainland scenery had so much disappointed her as woods and trees. She found them so dead and lifeless, that she never could help pining after the eternal motion and variety of the ocean. And so back she has gone; and I believe nothing will ever tempt her from the wind-swept Orcades again."—Sir Walter Scott. *Lockhart's Life*, vol. II.

[Although it is of a woman this striking anecdote is related, it has been thought more suitable to give the amplified expression of the sentiment in the stanzas a masculine application.]

I.

THESE grassy vales are warm and deep,
Where apple-orchards wave and glow;
Upon soft uplands whitening sheep
Drift in long wreaths.—Below,
Sun-fronting beds of garden-thyme, alive
With the small humming merchants of the hive,
And cottage-homes in every shady nook
Where willows dip and kiss the dimples of the brook.

II.

But all too close against my face
My thick breath feels these crowding trees,
They crush me in their green embrace.—
I miss the Life of Seas;
The wild free life that round the flinty shores
Of my bleak isles expanded ocean pours—
So free, so far, that, in the lull of even,
Nought but the rising moon stands on your path to heaven.

III.

In summer's smile, in winter's strife,
Unstirred, those hills are walls to me;
I want the vast, all various life
Of the broad, circling sea—
Each hour in morn, or noon, or midnight's range,
That heaves or slumbers with exhaustless change,
Dashed to the skies—steeped in blue morning's rays—
Or back resparkling far Orion's lovely blaze.

IV.

I miss the madd'ning Life of Seas,
When the red, angry sunset dies,
And to the storm-lashed Orcades
Resound the seaman's cries;
Mid thick'ning night, and fresh'ning gale, upon
The stretched ear bursts Despair's appealing gun,
O'er the low reef that on the lea-beam raves
With its down-crashing hills of wild, devouring waves.

V.

How then, at dim, exciting morn,
Suspense will question—as the Dark
Is clearing seaward—"Has she worn
The tempest through, that bark?"
And 'mid the breakers, bulwarks parting fast,
And wretches clinging to a shivered mast,
Give funeral answer. Quick with ropes and yawl!
Launch! and for life stretch out! they shall not perish all!

VI.

These inland love-bowers sweetly bloom,
White with the hawthorn's summer snows
Along soft turf a purple bloom
The elm at sunset throws:
There the fond lover, listening for the sweet,
Half-soundless coming of his maiden's feet,
Thrills if the linnet's rustling pinions pass,
Or some light leaf is blown rippling along the grass.

VII.

But love his palm as sweetly tells
Beneath some cavern beetling hoar,
Where silver sands and rosy shells
Pave the smooth glistening shore—
When all the winds are low, and to thy tender
Accents, the wavelets, stealing in, make slender
And tinkling cadence, wafting, every one,
A golden smile to thee from the fast-sinking sun

VIII.

Calm through the heavenly sea on high
Comes out each white and quiet star—
So calm up Ocean's floating sky
Come, one by one, afar,
White quiet sails from the grim icy coasts
That hear the battles of the whaling hosts,
Whose hom'ward crews with feet and flutes in tune
And spirits roughly blithe, make music to the moon.

IX.

Or if (like some) thou'st loved in vain,
Or madly wooed the already won,—
Go when the Passion and the Pain
Their havoc have begun,
And dare the Thunder rolling up behind
The Deep, to match that hurricane of mind:
Or to the sea-winds, raging on thy pale
Grief-wasted cheek, pour forth as bitter-keen a tale

X.

For in that sleepless, tumbling tide—
When most thy fevered spirits reel,
Sick with desires unsatisfied,—
Dwell life and balm to heal.

Subscribers in the country are requested to remit by postal money orders, if possible, as the safest and most convenient medium, particularly as it ensures acknowledgment through the Department. No other receipt will be given, any other being unnecessary and likely to cause confusion.

Raise thy free sail, and seek o'er ocean's breast
—It boots not what—those rose clouds in the west,
And deem that thus thy spirit freed shall be,
Ploughing the stars through seas of blue Eternity

XI.

This mainland life I could not live,
Nor die beneath a rookery's leaves—
But I my parting breath would give
Where chainless Ocean heaves;
In some gay turret, where my fading sight
Could see the Lighthouse flame into the night,
Emblem of guidance and of hope, to save;
Type of the Rescuer bright who walked the howling wave.

XII.

Nor, dead, amid the charnel's breath
Shall rise my tomb with lies befouled,
But like the Greek who faced in death
The sea in life he ruled,*
High on some peak, wave-girded, will I sleep,
My dirge sung ever by the coral deep;
There, sullen mourner! oft at midnight lone
Shall my familiar friend, the Thunder, come to groan.

XIII

Soft Vales and sunny Hills, farewell!
Long shall the friendship of your bowers
Be sweet to me as is the smell
Of their strange lovely flowers;
And each kind face, like every pleasant star
Be bright to me though ever bright afar:
True as the sea-bird's wing, I seek my home
And its glad Life, once more, by boundless Ocean's foam!

—*Blackwood.*

WEEKLYANA.

THE following Notice of Motion appears in the Order Book of the House of Commons, 1895. No date being fixed, it will appear every day till the motion is made:

"Mr. Naoroji,—Civil Service (India) (Simultaneous Open Competitive Examinations in England and India), That, in the opinion of this House, in order to preserve and maintain the stability of the British Power, the loyalty, confidence, contentment, and gratitude of the people of British India, to improve their material and moral condition and to increase largely commercial and industrial benefits to the people of the United Kingdom, it is expedient that the solemn pledges of the Act of 1833, of the Proclamation of 1858 after the Mutiny, of the Proclamation of 1877 on the assumption of the Imperial Title at the great Delhi Durbar, and of the further confirmation of these Proclamations on the Jubilee by Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen-Empress of India, should be fulfilled by, among other reforms, giving effect to the Resolution adopted by this House on 3rd June, 1893, viz.: 'That all open Competitive Examinations heretofore held in England alone for appointments to the Civil Services of India shall henceforth be held simultaneously both in India and England, such Examinations in both countries being indentical in their nature, and all who compete being finally classified in one list according to merit'."

We are afraid the Motion will drop off like the Resolution on which it is based.

***

ANOTHER cure for snake-bite is announced. It is—a light ligature and leeches. Khodabux, a cook, being beaten, after the bandage, leeches were promptly applied. After a time, they fell off one by one, dead, and the man was lively and then pronounced completely cured.

***

BEGINNING with the Empress's Birthday, the Overland Mail now leaving on Saturdays will leave Bombay on Fridays. Accordingly, in Calcutta, from the 21st May, the mail days will be Tuesdays instead of Wednesdays. The next mail is expected in Calcutta to-morrow.

***

THE Hon'ble Arthur Charles Trevor, C.S.I., has been appointed to officiate for Sir Charles Bradley Pritchard, K.C.I.E., on six month's leave, as Public Works Minister. He entered into his duties on the afternoon of the 20th April under the usual salute.

* Themistocles;—his tomb was on the shore at Salamis.

MR. P. O'Kinealy has been appointed Standing Counsel for the Presidency of Fort William in Bengal. At the Criminal Sessions, the presiding Judge, Mr. Justice Norris, congratulated Government on the appointment, offered his best wishes to Mr. O'Kinealy, and regretted "the absence of the almost invaluable assistance which for years the late Standing Counsel has rendered to this Court in the discharge sometimes of very onerous and difficult duty."

***

A CORRESPONDENT signing himself "A Ratepayer of Santipore" writes:—

"Sir,—I was very much pained to read, in your issue of the 13th April last, a paragraph on the transfer of Baboo Nobin Chandra Sen, the Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector of Ranaghat, stating that the transfer is a relief to the people of Santipore, who, you say, have grown tired of him. I wonder how you could form this opinion of Baboo Nobin Chandra Sen. The people of Santipore entertain great respect for Baboo Nobin Chandra Sen, and are truly sorry to part with him. And the best proof of this is afforded by the fact that when the Government was disposed to appoint a non-official chairman, the Municipal Commissioners of Santipore preferred Baboo Nobin Chandra Sen to a non-official Chairman who would have been appointed from one of their own townsmen. If the people of Santipore were tired of him, they would not have thus honoured him with their confidence and regard. During the short space of two years he has been Chairman of our Santipore Corporation, he has rendered conspicuous services to the ratepayers of Santipore. When he took charge of the office of Chairman, the finances of the Santipore Municipality were in a chronic state of embarrassment. To Mr. Nobin Chandra Sen belongs the credit of bringing order out of chaos in the Municipality. And I challenge any man to gainsay this fact. As to your ridiculing him as the 'Byron of Bengal,' all I can say is that it is quite uncalled for, out of the way, and uncharitable. Babu Nobin Chandra Sen is known to the whole world as a great poet and a literary man whose works are the delight of the educated people throughout the province, who entertain unbounded admiration for him."

Our correspondent is evidently an absentee ratepayer, or he would have known better, felt more deeply, and echoed the relief. Babu Sen's appointment of Chairman could not, by any stretch of argument, be any evidence of approbation of his administration of the Municipality. It is undoubtedly due to the Baboo that he did not further embarrass the finances which were recovering from the chaotic condition. We do not deny that he is a graceful versifier. Even his own apologist, while ranking Sen among the poets of the world, cannot say that he is read beyond his own Province of Bengal. Our correspondent, however, has missed the point of our remark. Babu Sen may be a good, even a very good poet. We have no quarrel with those who drink delight from his stanzas or lines many of which are highly artificial. It is one thing to write well, and another to speak of oneself as "the Byron of Bengal." We heard it from a European gentleman in the Civil Service that Babu Sen, very probably for impressing the gentleman with what was truly due to himself, informed him in the very first interview of the fact that he is regarded as the Byron of Bengal. The reply received was,—"Oh! indeed, I did not know that Bengal has already produced a poet with Byron's fire and originality. What, please, is the *Childe Harold* you have given to the world, or the new Bengali *Don Juan*?"

***

DOES our correspondent "A Mussalman" deny that the Mahomedan officer for whom he speaks was not on sick leave which had just commenced? We pause for a reply.

***

A CORRESPONDENT at Odessa writes to the *Times*:—

"An experiment has been successfully carried out by the Russian Government during the past winter of great importance to the British authorities in India and Australia. Up to the present time Russia's Asiatic outlet at Vladivostok has always been regarded as closed during the winter months; but this fact no longer exists, because the cruiser *Kostroma*, which was sent out as a trial, was not only able to land the reinforcement of soldiers she carried out, but, with the aid of the ice-breaker which was recently sent there, the cruiser got alongside of the Government quay and discharged the heavy guns and other war material she took out from here. This was done in the depth of winter with the cold at such a point that the opening she made was fast frozen half an hour afterwards. It is well known that Vladivostok is the port from which Russia would attack our Asiatic possessions in the event of hostilities with England, but as it was thought to be ice-bound several months of the year, its importance was considerably lessened. Now this supposition no longer exists, and it is now known for the first time since Russia has become an Asiatic Power that she has a marine outlet for offensive and defensive purposes that can be termed open all the year round."

The civilised world has now but one thought, *viz.*, the discovery of new methods and routes of attacking neighbours and repelling their attacks, those that excel in the art of destroying and defacing God's works being regarded as truly great. The oddest

nooks of the Earth must be explored for victims to Bellona and Mars. Representatives of the strongest nations must poke their noses into affairs that do not concern them at all, provided they can win martyrdom for themselves by losing liberty or life in the confidence that their people would avenge them on their captors or slayers and thereby increase their military renown and extend their political and commercial dominion. If science progressed with equal strides in every country, the depopulation of the Earth would have by this been an accomplished fact. Little insects and worms die and from their number form new islands in the sea. Who knows that the human race has not been created for perishing by one another's hands as the direct result of an extended acquaintance with the secrets of Nature? The reflections that Rider Haggard puts into the mouth of *Alston* in one of his beautiful novels, though gloomy, have much to recommend them for general adoption.

***

ONE of the attractions of the Paris Exhibition of 1900 is thus anticipated. At the last Show they had a Tower, at the next they will have a Pit:—

"Instead of building a tower, Paris is now asked to dig a pit. Although M. Grousset desires primarily to solve a geological problem, his manner of doing so is by no means designed to repulse the Philistine mind. He wants to test practically the asserted existence of a central fire beneath the earth's crust, and he shows us in appropriately glowing language how eminently practicable, useful, and entertaining withal such an undertaking, as imagined by him, would certainly be found. According to M. Grousset, the existence of internal terrestrial fire is not absolutely certain. It is only probable, and if he should not meet it he will not be disappointed. He finds that in mines the temperature down to a certain depth is practically equal to the average temperature above ground. On descending beyond that point, however, the thermometer has been found to rise about one deg. Cen. per 100 feet. He desires to test the continuance of this thermal law at a much greater depth than has yet been reached. Should it be found to remain constant, boiling point would be reached about 9,000 or 10,000 feet below the surface, and 666 degs. Cent.—a point at which nearly all bodies would be in a state of fusion—some twelve and a half miles down. Of course M. Grousset would not take Parisians down as far as the point of fusion, but only until tropical heat was reached. After that he would continue his experiments by means of borings. The plan of M. Grousset's Inferno comprises a series of vertical shafts, each 600 feet long, and terminating in a vast subterranean gallery. Each shaft would have a couple of lifts for the transfer of passengers up and down from the various stages. The lowest 'circle' would probably be at a depth of about 4,000 feet. Each gallery would be fitted up in keeping with its own special temperature. Arctic scenery would be found near the surface. This would be managed by means of artificial ice. In the lower latitudes tropical landscapes would, of course, delight the eye. The electric light would be installed throughout, and perfect ventilation and safety, we are told, would be secured. The total cost of the undertaking is estimated at not more than 500,000*l.* sterling, assuming the lowest gallery to be at a depth of 4,500 feet. As a mere sight, M. Grousset is confident that the venture would pay. But, apart from this, he hopes to strike upon a fresh source of light, heat and force, which may be put to good use. M. Grousset, it is understood, has at no time been a collaborator of M. Jules Verne."

NOTES & LEADERETTES,
OUR OWN NEWS,
&
THE WEEK'S TELEGRAMS IN BRIEF, WITH OCCASIONAL COMMENTS.

THE treaty of peace between China and Japan has not yet been ratified. In China, there is a disposition to resist it. The state of affairs at Pekin are said to be critical. Some Chinese Generals are reported to be in favour of the continuance of war to the bitter end. With the ratification, the Chinese Army may give the Government trouble. Li-Hung-Chang has arrived at Tientsin from Simonosaki quite well. His reception at the Capital, we believe, will decide the question.

Japan obtains, under the treaty, peace under the most favourable conditions. China conforms to the Japanese customs tariff. Japan demands openings for trade in Chentu, Kufongfu, Pekin, Shaoking and Huchow. The Japanese Government denies the report current of an offensive and defensive alliance with China. It also declares that the commercial concessions obtained from China extend to all Powers by virtue of the favoured nation clause. The Chinese indemnity is payable within seven years, the rate of interest being five per cent. per annum, but no interest is chargeable if the indemnity is settled before the expiration of three years. A Chinese loan of three millions sterling has been concluded with a German syndicate.

France, Germany, and Russia remonstrated with Japan against the cession on the Chinese mainland. The Russian Government besides made a strong representation to the Japanese Minister at St. Petersburg. Russian official circles are irritated at the supposed tendency of Great Britain to stand aloof. Part of the German press approves of England's reserve and opposes Germany joining Russia and France. The *Times* says that the British Government has set a wise example in refusing to join France, Germany, and Russia in putting pressure on Japan. The proposed naval demonstration is an unprecedented and impolitic step. Any Power meddling with Japan must act on its own risk. In the opinion of the paper conditions agreed to by China are not directly menacing to British interests. British trade is not affected by the Japanese annexation of the Liaotung Peninsula, and the smaller commercial interests of France and Germany are equally untouched. Other English newspapers unanimously approve of England's abstention from the step taken by the three Powers and express surprise at the action of France, still more so of Germany. The papers are of opinion that both these Powers are simply pulling chestnuts out of the fire for Russia.

Japan has replied declaring that to yield to the remonstrances of the Powers Japan would risk an uprising of her people who are drunk with the successes which have been achieved in war by their country, and would never allow any concession of the terms of the treaty peace at the bidding of any Power.

The Mikado has issued a proclamation in which he highly approves of the agreement arrived at between Japan and China, and declares his ardent desire for peace. His object is to promote national prosperity. He hopes that the Japanese, avoiding self-contentedness, will now modestly strive to perfect the defences of the Empire. In conclusion, the Mikado enjoins his subjects to cultivate friendly relations with China as soon as the ratification of the peace is complete.

The Moscow *Viedomosti*, in a leading article, says that it is inevitable for Russia to present an ultimatum to Japan for refusing to allow that country any territory or influence on the Chinese mainland. The journal warns Great Britain that if she supports Japan in her opposition to Russian interests, her Indian Empire will be the sufferer. The work in connection with the Pamir agreement between the British and Russian Governments, which was the result of a cordial wish on the part of Russia to act in harmony with England, will be undone.

MR. Peel, late Speaker of the House of Commons, has been created a Viscount. The House has voted him an annuity of £4,000. Mr. Gully was formally installed as Speaker on April 23.

THE Queen has left the Riviera for Darmstadt, where her Majesty is the guest of the Grand Duke and Grand Duchess of Hesse.

MR. Fowler is convalescent. He took carriage exercise last week.

PRESIDENT Faure inspected the British cruiser Australia at Havre on April 19th. He was received with great enthusiasm on board, speeches of the most cordial character being exchanged.

THE British Channel Squadron will shortly visit Kiel. Admiral Fitzroy has been instructed to invite the Russian Admiral of the Baltic Squadron to pay a visit to Spithead during the Cowes Regatta.

OSCAR WILDE has been committed for trial on a charge of conspiring to commit acts of indecency. His associate Taylor, who is charged with the gravest offence, was also committed. Bail was refused to both.

THE Council of the Russian Empire has approved the scheme of the Finance Minister to authorise commercial transactions on a gold basis. This is regarded as the first step towards a gold currency for Russia.

M. DELONCLE has returned from Egypt. He will raise the Egyptian question in the French Chamber of Deputies, as it is now time, he

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thinks, that England fulfilled her engagement to the Great Powers to evacuate Egypt. M. Deloncle considers that the sole solution of the Egyptian difficulty is the neutralisation of Egypt.

THE Pope has issued a letter addressed to the English people in which his Holiness asks for the prayers of Roman Catholics and men of good-will of all communions in order to obtain the re-union of the Roman and Anglican Churches and Christendom generally.

NEWS from the Madagascar Coast state that the French have occupied the fortress of Ambodivohibe, near Diego Saurez.

CHOLERA among the Mecca pilgrims at the Kameran Lazaretto is increasing. Great mortality prevails.

THE Opium Commission's Report is signed by all the members of the Commission except Mr. Wilson, who drafted a minority report. The report is divided into two parts. The first deals with the opium traffic as affecting India and the producer: the second part treats of the traffic as affecting China and the consumer. The report observes that prohibition of the cultivation of poppy would inflict a heavy loss on the revenue of India. Moreover if the prohibition were extended to Protected Native States it would be unjustifiable and be resented by the Chiefs and people. China on her part has fully recognised the provisions of the existing treaties regarding the importation of opium. The *Times*, in reviewing the report, declares that the result is a great victory for the cause of commonsense. The paper entirely supports the conclusions arrived at by the Commissioners. When will the Report be published in India?

PRESIDENT Cleveland's friends are organising a vigorous campaign against the silver coinage propaganda of the Democratic party

THE period of seven weeks allowed in the British ultimatum to Nicaragua having expired, the Government of that Republic replied proposing the appointment of a Commission to adjudicate the questions of indemnity for damages to persons and property. There being again delay in the appointment of the Commission, two British warships have sailed to Corinto to enforce the ultimatum. The British Naval Commander has allowed Nicaragua three days for the payment of the indemnity, failing which the British warships will blockade the Port Counto, and will land a force and occupy the town.

INTELLIGENCE has been received from Cuba announcing the rout of a large rebel force under the powerful leader Maceo, who has succeeded in landing his strong filibustering expedition on the island. The Government troops fought with great bravery, the battle being a bloody one, and among the killed and wounded and prisoners were several prominent rebels.

A SEVERE shock of earthquake was felt, on April 15, in Italy and in the Southern districts of Austria. Several houses collapsed, and railways were blocked by falling *débris*. About twenty persons were killed.

THE Amir of Bokhara is sending a special Embassy to St. Petersburg to arrange for the evacuation of the ceded territory in the Pamirs. The Amir of Cabool makes no sign yet.

DURING artillery practice at Woosung a forty-ton Armstrong gun burst and set fire to a powder magazine, which, exploding, killed fifty Chinese.

WE believe it is not generally known how Sir Charles Elliott, returning from England on the expiry of his leave for six months, sought to draw the exchange compensation allowance and how he had at last to give in before the determined opposition of Mr. Finlay. There is a rule which lays down that leave on medical certificate for not more than six months may be granted to a Lieutenant-Governor. On resuming duties he is entitled to half his salary for the period of his absence. Sir Charles, therefore, could not draw his pay in England. He came back to Bengal, and sought to draw the exchange compensation allowance. Our trusty Finance Minister, Sir James Westland, was disposed to befriend Sir Charles by giving orders for the passing of his claim. Mr. Finlay, however, opposed the endeavour. He had very good grounds for so doing. The matter had to be referred to the Viceroy in Council. Lord Elgin played the man by resisting the claim. It has now been definitely declared that "exchange compensation allowance is admissible to officers on leave *in India* in the same way as to officers on duty." Whatever the English of the rule,—for instead of an allowance being admissible to officers, officers are admissible to it,—there can be no question that the thanks of the country are due to Mr. Finlay for the resolution he showed in baffling this well supported attack on the unprotected revenues of India.

WE hear with pleasure of efforts made in the suburbs for the improvement of *bastis*, particularly of those situated in the neighbourhood of Jute-mills. A Municipality could not more usefully bestir itself than in this direction, for it is these crowded insanitary places which are the hotbeds of cholera and small-pox. Nothing can be more satisfactory than when the officers of these factories themselves are found zealously co-operating with a Municipality in putting the dwellings of their working men into better order. We understand this is being done at Bara nagar, where there are some of the largest Jute-mills in the country, the latest improvement being the laying of pipes of good drinking water into the *bastis* for the use of the working people. The Municipality has effected some improvements of late by the opening out of roads and otherwise, and this has encouraged Mr Thoms, Manager of one of the Mills, to carry the work further. He has already carried the pipes into one of the *bastis*, and Mr. M'Pherson, the other Manager, is following suit. This supply of pure drinking water at no cost to the people, will be a great blessing to them, while with proper drains and connections it ought to enable the Municipality to supply dried up tanks with a plentiful stock of good water and to carry out other improvements. Messrs. Thoms and M'Pherson are entitled to the best thanks of the community.

WHATEVER the faith of medical men in India in vaccination and revaccination as a preventive of small-pox, the enlightened opinion in England is that vaccination, how many times repeated soever, is no protection against that fell disease The chief argument against the utility of vaccination, it seems, is this. small-pox is a generic name for more than a dozen well defined and different diseases having a common appearance. Microscopic examination has proved that the *bacilli* traceable in these varieties are all different from one another in habits, forms, and nature. It does not stand to reason that lymph having one kind of bacilli, introduced into the human system, will protect it from those varieties of pox which have other kinds of *bacilli* What was the kind of lymph with which Dr. Jenner made his experiments? Can any one answer this question? Vaccination and re-vaccination are, therefore, leaps in the dark Without the beneficial effects being at all guaranteed of such introduction of a powerful poison into the human system, its evil effects are certain In England, vaccination is not everywhere enforced under the law The manner in which certain mercantile firms of Calcutta have behaved towards their native assistants by compelling them to undergo re-vaccination, is certainly censurable. Fear of losing their bread obliged the poor men to submit to the medical fad of the hour. Panic frequently deprives Englishmen of reason. We know nothing of how pox is generated, or why one variety of it should manifest itself on Jack and another on Tom. Some medical enthusiast proclaims with a loud tongue that although nothing is known of the generation of the disease or the *modus operandi* of its cure, yet a remedy has been found for its prevention. *Bus!* The very legislature forthwith places itself in the hands of that enthusiast. Is this science? Is this civilisation? Is this common sense? How many medical men in Calcutta have subjected themselves to this operation of their own recommendation?

DEAFNESS. An essay describing a really genuine Cure for Deafness, Singing in Ears, &c., no matter how severe or long-standing, will be sent post free.—Artificial Ear-drums and similar appliances entirely superseded Address THOMAS KEMPE, VICTORIA CHAMBERS, 19, SOUTHAMPTON BUILDINGS, HOLBORN, LONDON.

WHEN, amid the rapid development of the situation, the expeditionary force was put on the field, nobody could think that that was the time for a dispassionate survey of the policy pursued towards Chitral by the British Indian Government. The representative of British India at Chitral was threatened to be cut off like another Cavagnari. The relief of Dr. Robertson and his small party became a matter of paramount necessity. Every other question receded before it. The British Government had for a series of years been regularly subsidizing the frontier tribes. Barbarous and ignorant peoples must have looked upon this as evidence of inherent weakness. The prestige of the British Government required to be upheld. Still more was it necessary to prevent the slaughter of brave men who had imperilled themselves at the call of duty. Whatever one's opinion, therefore, of the frontier policy pursued for years, no man with the slightest tincture of patriotism could think of raising a voice against the forward advance of British troops to Chitral. Two other British officers with at least their personal escort were prisoners in the hands of another Chief to whose action the peril of Dr. Robertson was largely ascribable. To rescue the captives and save the small British garrison at Chitral from immediate extermination were objects whose accomplishment could not be delayed. Both the officers and the troops despatched on the expedition have behaved admirably. The commissariat too has shown its mettle. Every opposition has been overcome. Height after height and pass after pass have witnessed the valour of our troops. Setting his captives free, Umra Khan has abandoned the scene and is now a prisoner awaiting the pleasure of the Ameer. Shere Afzal, it is true, had endeavoured to give further trouble on his own account, but the brilliant advance of Colonel Kelly and General Gatacre has paralysed his movements. Meanwhile, Dr. Robertson himself was not inactive. Shut up in Chitral, he dared the attack of all comers. The sight is not new of a handful of British soldiers defending with wonderful gallantry some miserable fort for days together, amid all sorts of hardships, against tremendous odds It could not be expected that Dr Robertson would sustain no loss while maintaining himself thus. For all his losses, however, British pluck and gallantry and the British contempt for danger have been abundantly proved by him. At a time when others would have trembled for their own safety, Dr. Robertson had the courage to even effect a revolution in Chitral by deposing and putting under arrest the ruling Mehter Amir-ul-Mulk and setting up another named Shuja-ul-Mulk. Of course, Dr. Robertson has done nothing towards pledging the British Government of India to this or that line of policy, for all his measures have been provisional and temporary. For a detailed account of the campaign we would refer our readers to the Despatch of General Low to the Government of India published elsewhere. There can be no doubt that from a military point of view the subsequent action of the expeditionary force has been quite in keeping with the promptitude with which it was put on the field. There will be no difference of opinion on this. The policy, however, that led to Dr. Robertson's imperilling himself in the first instance will, we are sure, divide public opinion.

WE read :—

"Nine months for nine cocoanuts.—Yesterday (April 26) at the Court of Mr. Abdus Salam, Deputy Magistrate of Howrah, Uma Charan Mullick, an incorrigible thief, was no proof of previous conviction sentenced to nine months' rigorous imprisonment for stealing nine cocoanuts from a garden in the Howrah District."

A month each for a cocoanut not worth more than two pice !

Again :—

"At the second Criminal Sessions, Mr Justice Norris, in passing sentence on Abdus Sobhan, said that the offence for which he had been committed was a very trivial one. Two men were wrangling in the street, and one of them dropped a wrapper, which the prisoner picked up and ran away with. The offence was such a paltry one that his lordship could not conceive how the Magistrate had committed the man to the sessions. The sentence of the Court would be that the accused be rigorously imprisoned for three months."

We also read that the prisoner was committed for house-breaking by night in order to commit theft in a building, and dishonestly receiving stolen property. The wrapper was much more valuable than the nine cocoanuts, and while Abdool the Magistrate sentenced his prisoner to nine months, Abdool the prisoner received only three months from Justice Norris.

A CORRESPONDENT writes from Simla under date the 22nd April :—

"We had three tremendous thunder-storms *en route* in the Hills : but now the weather is lovely. Simla looks bright indeed, bathed in sunshine with the glorious snow showing in so marked a contrast to the wretched attempt at architecture scattered over the mountain side on the near foreground. The air is such as Calcutta enjoys for only a few fleeting days in January. It raises my bile, however, to think of the gigantic dereliction of duty exhibited by those who bask in such a climate while drawing pay and enjoying leave on a scale fixed as a compensation for toil in the plains."

It is no Baboo that speaks.

PREPARATIONS are making for election of members to the Bengal Legislative Council. Raja Surja Kant Acharjee of Mymensing has offered himself a candidate for the Dacca Division. Dr. Rash Behary Ghosh has been asked to stand for the Burdwan Division. It is well that he has agreed. He would be a proper representative of the Calcutta University. Last time the Fellows were alive to their responsibility. But one election seems to have been enough to make them indifferent to the matter and allow things to take their own course. Another candidate has appeared for the Burdwan Division in Babu Shib Narayan Mookerjee, a grandson of Babu Joy Kissen Mookerjee, of Uttarpara. Babu Shib Narayan's printed manifesto will, we are sure, settle his eligibility.

AT the last meeting of the Calcutta Corporation, the Health Officer made the following answers to several questions on the small-pox epidemic which still rages :—

"In the capital of India the system of vaccination is to-day in much the same condition as the system of inoculation was in some parts of Europe nearly two hundred years ago, when old women used to perform the operation. I would recommend that the present vaccinators be replaced by Civil hospital assistants, who should first have a special training in vaccination and pass successfully an examination upon it. All public vaccinators in England have to do this. As a young medical man I had to pass a special examination, in vaccination, before I was permitted to hold the office of public vaccinator to the town of Dover. I mention this to show the importance attached to a proper system of vaccination. In India the curious custom has grown up, for the majority of Indian medical practitioners, to think it beneath their dignity to vaccinate. It is a feeling which is not entertained elsewhere. On the contrary, medical men of a family take a pride in vaccinating those under their care thoroughly, and I think if medical men were appointed as vaccinators, in the way I have suggested, the feeling now prevalent among Indian medical men, that vaccination is an unimportant and rather menial work, requiring neither skill nor knowledge, would gradually disappear, and with it vaccination would become more popular among the people The organization for the supply of lymph, moreover, requires improvement. Arm to arm vaccination having practically gone out of fashion, an elaborate organization is needed to meet the legitimate demand for calf vaccination, and one of the first essentials is the supply of a better class of animals. The calves now supplied are miserable creatures and hardly fit subjects for the cultivation of good lymph. This, of course, again means extra expense."

He admits what we have contended that

"The hospital statistics are no index of the prevalence of the disease in the town. All Europeans and most Eurasians go voluntarily to hospital, whereas Natives only go when compelled. One week when there were 17 deaths in the hospital, there were 216 in the town."

Regarding the prevalence of the disease among Europeans and Eurasians and their willingness to be vaccinated, Dr. Simpson says :—

"Among the Europeans, one of the first deaths in the hospital was that of a patient who had never been vaccinated, and from the returns in my possession, nearly 40 per cent. of Europeans and Eurasians, admitted into hospital, had never been vaccinated in their lives, and there is only a single case recorded which had been re-vaccinated. This re-vaccination, however, unfortunately, had been unsuccessful, and was done in England. In a large number of Eurasian houses where small-pox had broken out, re-vaccination was refused."

Dr. Simpson is a believer in vaccination and wants more powers to inflict it To other questions he replied :—

"Without powers of compulsory removal, a large isolation hospital would be empty. I had the honour of being the Sanitary Adviser to the Committee that framed the present Municipal Act, and urged upon them the importance of a compulsory clause, but I could get the Committee to go no further than insert a clause that under certain conditions males might be removed to hospital It is to be hoped that one of the fruits of the present epidemic will be the granting of compulsory powers in this respect, and then it will be time enough to bring forward proposals regarding an isolation hospital. Calcutta is, however, not totally without isolation accommodation As matters now stand, the Campbell Hospital, which belonged to the Justices of the Peace for a short time and which was re-transferred by them to the Government with a contribution of Rs. 30,000 annually, performs, in part, the functions of an isolation hospital, several large buildings being set apart for cholera and small-pox, and for several years past I have had the satisfaction of seeing established at the General Hospital and the Medical College, small isolation hospitals for cholera and diphtheria. That a large central isolation hospital is needed there can be no doubt, but for it to be useful the necessary powers of compulsory removal must first be obtained. It will, however, be a very costly undertaking."

He gave the history of the prosecution of the washerman sentenced by the Chief Magistrate to one month's rigorous imprisonment for starching and ironing clothes in the room in which his wife lay ill with small-pox.

"Mathu Dhoby was warned by one of the Medical Inspectors.

A warning notice was also served under section 269 of the I. P. Code, and after this notice, the Medical Inspector visited the premises four or five times and warned the inmates of the house of the consequences which the dhoby was incurring. He was given the choice to remove his wife to hospital or even to another house."

They are a kind people. Having lodged the man in jail, they have started a subscription for the support of his family We have a Vaccination law in Bengal, but the washerman was not punished under it. The aid of the general Penal Code was invoked to allay the panic of the hour. The Bengal Vaccination Act makes vaccination compulsory and no more. The Municipal Act empowers only the removal of any male person suffering from any dangerous, epidemic, endemic, or infectious disease, who is, in the opinion of the Health Officer, without proper lodging or accommodation. Failing to remove the wife, the husband was punished for "unlawfully or negligently doing an act which was, and which he knew or had reason to believe to be, likely to spread the infection of any disease dangerous to life." What became of the clothing for ironing which the washerman was sent to jail? Were the articles disinfected and returned to their owners, or were they destroyed? We are not sure that the section could be lawfully applied in the present case. Mere ironing could not be punished. We doubt whether allowing the clothing to continue in a house with a small-pox patient could be visited with the penalty of the section, namely, imprisonment of either description for a term which may extend to six months, or with fine, or with both. The washerman was not, according to the reply of the Health Officer, given the choice to remove the articles to another house He was ordered to remove his wife. And because he would not remove her, he was sent to jail. The Municipal law, section 322, Act II., B. C, of 1888, lays down.—"The Commissioners may, at any time, after giving such notice of their intention as shall, under the circumstances, appear to them to be reasonable, enter and inspect any place in which any dangerous disease is reputed or suspected to exist, and take measures as they shall think fit to prevent the spread of the said disease beyond such place." Under this power, the Health Officer could, we think, justly remove the articles of clothing to be detained or disinfected. Section 325, which the Health Officer himself quotes later on, expressly empowers the Commissioners to cause any building or part of a building or any article therein to be cleansed or disinfected.

Regarding disposal of infected articles, Dr. Simpson said —

"In those cases where infected articles are not destroyed and in which fumigation is considered insufficient, the articles are sent by the Medical Inspector to the steam disinfector belonging to the Municipality. The Medical Inspector carries out the disinfection by means of coolies made over to him specially for the purpose by the Superintendent of the town. In those cases where disinfection is refused, notices are served under section 325 of the Municipal Act, requiring the parties to carry out the disinfection within twenty-four hours, to the satisfaction of the Medical Inspectors, and on the back of the notice are printed rules for disinfection. The general effect of this notice is for the parties to ask the Medical Inspector to arrange the disinfection."

THE executive authorities at Nuddea are going on as jauntily as ever Our readers know on what flimsy pretext the Magistrate, Mr. Garret, set at naught the orders of the High Court which had directed, on the 1st of May 1894, that the rayyets in possession should not be suffered to be ousted in consequence of the orders of the Deputy Magistrate, dated the 31st of January 1894, under section 145 of the Code of Criminal Procedure. The seventy-seven rayyets, who ought to have been maintained in possession as against both the Chetlangis and the Natudah Pal Chowdhuries, were, however, not allowed to approach their lands on the extraordinary ground that Mr. Garret had not a sufficient establishment of Deputies through which he could identify which land was held by which of them. From the 12th of May 1894, the date when the order of the High Court was communicated to him, to April 1895, is almost a year One whole year, however, is a very small period to a Magistrate like Mr Garret for disposing off seventy-seven claims to possession of land. Not that Mr. Garret ever made the attempt himself or even directed any of his Deputies to do it. But knowing that there would be such an unprecedented number of cases as seventy-seven to dispose of and hampered with an establishment of Deputies no way smaller than elsewhere, this young Qve Hye has actually abstained from interfering. A very small measure of common sense, of even ordinary tact, which we have a right to expect from Mr. Garret, however tender his age, could have brought about peace without the posting of an additional Constabulary whose costs are realised from the ousted rayyets but who are engaged in protecting the possession of the Pal Chowhuries. The Divisional Commissioner having been appealed to by the rayyets against the oppressions committed in the name of the law, chose to read the memorial as one complaining only of the manner of assessing the Police dues. Finding themselves the indulged masters of the situation, the Nuddea Magistracy have been acting in a way the like of which we have not seen for many years in even the wildest Indian district.

A Deputy has lately been transferred to that District whose relations with Babu Naffar Chandra Pal Chowdhury are believed to be intimate. Both are members and office-bearers of a Society started with the questionable object of depriving of its glory the place that is now regarded by the generality of the Vaishnavas as the birthplace of Chaitanya and conferring it on a thinly peopled Mussalman village on the other side of the river. Some of Babu Naffar Chandra's men filed complaints, under various sections of the Penal Code, against two of the seventy-seven rayyets who had cut some crops growing on *chur* Paninala. The accused asserted that the lands were theirs, the Deputy Magistrate's order ousting them therefrom having been set aside by the High Court. The Deputy found that the crops had been sown by others. The accused urged that even if sown by others, the crops must be held to belong to them as they grew on lands from which they had never been legally evicted. The experienced Deputy had no ear to lend to such a plea. His chief himself had said that the question could not, with the present establishment at Nuddea, be settled as to which lands had really been held by which rayyet of Paninalā, and as this was an administrative problem practically incapable of solution at Nuddea, the best course would be to allow Babu Naffar Chandra to take possession of *all* the lands on the *chur* and to call down a special Constabulary to protect that weak helpless individual against the very powerful confederacy of seventy-seven starving ploughmen who must, besides, pay for that Constabulary Unable to fly into the face of his chief, the Deputy has sentenced the accused to imprisonment, having taken judicial cognisance of the fact that if fined, the fines would be paid by the Chetlangis, the opponents of Babu Nuffar Chandra and so would not at all touch the convicted. The latter have moved the High Court which has ordered bail. The cases will come on for disposal very soon. Meanwhile, may we ask who is responsible for the posting and transfers of Deputy Magistrates? When this particular Deputy was transferred to Nuddea, was the Chief Secretary of the Bengal Government ignorant of the intimate relations of that officer not only with Babu Nuffar Chandra, one of the largest Zemindars of the place, but with many others living in that district? Was the fact known that Nuddea is his domicile? Was it known that the endeavour to discredit tradition and establish a new place of pilgrimage on the other side of the river as the true site of Chaitanya's birth place, is calculated to inflict pecuniary injury on some and bring an accession of wealth to others among those that would be subjected to his jurisdiction?

REIS & RAYYET.

Saturday, April 27, 1895

SIR LEPEL GRIFFIN ON INDIA.

SIR Lepel Griffin's lecture on "India in 1895," read before the East India Association, has naturally excited much attention. Sir Lepel is an Indian Civilian who has seen much and varied service, and is an able officer, with strong convictions which he is fond of expressing in strong language and with a decision which often borders on dogmatism. His opinions may be taken as fairly representing the views of the Official class in this country. When we have said this, we have sufficiently indicated how they must be, at some points, divergent from opinions which are now making progress amongst a class of politicans more sympathetic towards the aspirations of our advanced countrymen. Sir Lepel's views are encrusted with the traditions and prejudices of the ruling caste to which he belongs. He is naturally fond of the paternal despotism which he has administered so long, while the new order of things that is rising in Bengal and other advanced Provinces seems strange and of evil portent to one who has been accustomed to the

different atmosphere of the Punjab. That he has, therefore, no patience with the pretensions of the new school of politicians who demand representative government and simultaneous examinations, will go without saying; while, as to the Press, he would probably be very glad if he could curb it with an iron censorship.

While it is impossible for us to agree with the lecturer in some of his opinions, at any rate without considerable reservations, we cannot but admire the freedom with which he speaks on the Cotton duties and the Opium Commisson. Sir Lepel Griffin rejoices over the re-imposition of those duties by the Government of India, and the exemption of the Indian treasury from the whole of the Opium Commission charges. Referring to the recent debate in the House of Commons on the Cotton duties, Mr. Fowler is justly applauded for the statesmanship he showed by his decision that India is not to be tossed lightly on the wave of English party politics On the opium duty Sir Lepel spoke with great practical knowledge and wisdom. His observations will, no doubt, be read with interest in this country:—

"It is a remarkable thing that at the very moment that the Indian Government is reduced to great financial distress, a certain number of Englishmen, misled by a generous sentiment and the national love of meddling, should be endeavouring to destroy the revenue from Opium, which is, perhaps, the most satisfactory item of the Indian Budget It has all the characteristics of an ideal revenue. It is imposed on a luxury, and is paid in great part by foreign consumers, the Chinese But whether consumed in India, by Sikhs and Rajputs, or in China, it is equally an object of dislike to a large body of respectable and pious people in this country, who think that it is immoral for the Government to hold a monopoly and gain a large slice of its revenue by the growth and sale of this wicked and pernicious drug I can only say here that, while in charge of Central India, I was in charge of the whole Opium revenue of the Government derived from Native States, and two or three millions sterling of this Opium money passed through my hand, every year. It was my necessary duty to be intimately familiar with the growth, manufacture, use and abuse of opium, and my conviction is that it would be a foolish and wicked thing to interfere with its consumption. As Magistrate or Judge I have never sentenced a man for a crime committed under the influence of Opium. And although Opium in excess is bad, as brandy or tea in excess is bad, it is not taken to excess in India; while in China, where the poppy is everywhere grown, and Opium generally used, the Indian drug is merely the luxury of the rich as champagne in England. If the Anti-Opium Society were to endeavour to make the manufacture of beer in England and the importation of French wines penal offences, they would be doing a far more sensible and honest thing than by attacking the Opium trade; for the evil effects of alcohol, in murder, violence, and prostitution are to be seen on every side.

But even if the use of Opium were injurious, instead of being innocuous or beneficial, what right have we to interfere? Are we, English, so virtuous that we must insist upon the whole world conforming to our ethical code? The Indians enjoyed a high civilization thousands of years before the brith of the Anti Opium Society, and it is a gross impertinence to interfere with the social usages of a people who have as absolute a right to take opium as we have to enjoy tea and tobacco. A tardy justice has removed the cost of the Opium Commssion from the Indian treasury to the English Exchequer, and this is so far an advantage that the House of Commons will be less likely in future to adopt silly proposals, the cost of which will fall on English tax-payers. But it is still hard that you and I should have to pay for this monstrous Commission. There is a pleasant law in India under which people are fined for bringing wanton or vexatious charges; and if these philanthropists were compelled to pay for their vicarious virtue out of their own pockets a great public gain would be secured."

The case for opium could not be put better within as short a compass for the apprehension of an English audience. Not only is opium not taken to excess, but it is incapable of being taken to excess. A dose of opium does not create, like a dose of brandy, a hankering for speedy repetition. Hence there cannot be orgies with opium as with brandy and other intoxicating liquors patronised in European countries. The philanthropy of Exeter Hall is frequently misdirected. Familiarity blinds it to those social evils of even gigantic proportions which flourish before its eyes. Perhaps, its enthusiasm requires to be fed by considerations of singularity and remoteness in respect of objects. A crusade against alcohol waged on English ground would be a very tame affair. Fortunately, the truth has come out and India has been saved. Sir Lepel Griffin has done real service by repeating the principal considerations on behalf of a source of revenue which India can ill afford to abandon at any time.

The cry for representative institutions that has gone forth from the Congress has been too much for Sir Lepel. India, he says, wants to be governed, and does not desire representative institutions, and is not fit for them. The people have never yet shown any sympathy with that madness known as representative institutions. Indeed, Sir Lepel goes further and has doubts whether the virtue of representative institutions is not already departing even in England and America. As to France, these never had any virtue there at all. In Sir Lepel Griffin's eyes they seem to be everywhere failing in Europe. He prays, therefore, that they may not be forced on Asia with the present experience of their results. Sir Lepel is, indeed, a thorough advocate of despotism. His concluding words on this topic are—"Our Indian fellow subjects ask to be governed, justly and wisely, but still to be governed; and if the reins of power slip from the nerveless fingers of her rulers, there are others who will quickly pick them up and invite us to step down from the chariot" In other words, Sir Lepel Griffin maintains that the people of India wish to be governed by England and, therefore, their wish should be gratified by England governing them with a strong hand, for if England's government be weak other nations will appear in the scene and send England out bag and baggage. Strong Government, Sir Lepel holds, consists in maintaining the present system of administration, without granting the people any sort of voice in their own affairs. Views such as these have able advocates, it is true, but it is equally true that they are not wholly correct. The character of British rule in India has been progressive. At first it was feared that if the people of India were educated, they would be disposed to throw off England's rule. The boon of education, however, could not be withheld. Schools and Colleges rose rapidly in every part of the country and did their work. British administration, however, has outlived the inauguration of its educational policy. The cry now of the advanced sections of the people is for a larger share of power in the government of their own country. Sir Lepel Griffin and politicians of his class will oppose that cry as long as they will live. For all that, there will be progress and not retrogression. The people will have a larger share of power. Whether that is to be accomplished by an expansion of the Provincial and the Supreme Legislative Councils to an extent that is incapable of being foreseen at present, or by any other means, one need not care. But the clock of progress is incapable of being permanently put back.

THE UNDER-DEITIES OF OLYMPUS
AND
THEIR *PROTEGES*.

If the secret history were known of the rise, in the uncovenanted rvice of particular Europeans distinguished by no merit that one ..se, a correct idea could be formed of how some of our

large ministerial establishments are managed by "responsible heads" of a certain class. Just now, in one of the large controlling Military Accounts establishments, there is an uncovenanted European assistant who has recently been made Superintendent of a particular branch. As such he exercises considerable power for good or evil over hundreds of native clerks placed under him. Some years back he received a small appointment on a pay of Rs. 80 rising to Rs. 100. Though not possessed of any merit, yet an opportunity having soon presented itself, he was promoted to a post with pay from Rs. 110 to 180. Some time after and before, in fact, he had reached the maximum of his grade, a new official superior, holding the rank of Major, at once promoted him to a grade higher than the next, with pay rising from Rs. 300 to 400. The Major went away. His successor, a Colonel, a man with keen sense of responsibility, seeing the worthlessness of the Major's *protégé*, reduced his pay to Rs. 200 to 280. A little while after, the exigencies of the service led to his transfer to another branch where the qualification necessary was ability to draft ordinary official letters. The man was at once found out, and his Chief, the same Colonel who had degraded him, re-transferred him to his former post with directions to a native assistant to watch him closely. The few drafts he had to make were found by the gentleman under whose supervision he was placed to be always worthless. These had to be substituted by drafts entirely new, as no measure of alterations and additions could bring them up to the ordinary standard of official correspondence. Seeing that this could not go on for any length of time, he induced the native assistant to make over the latter's drafts to him so that he might copy them out in his own hand and save appearances as much as possible. Meanwhile, having lived beyond his means and incurred more debts than he could ever hope to re-pay, he applied to the High Court for a thorough white wash. The High Court, without granting his prayer, passed an order protecting him from arrest and for a rateable distribution of half his pay among his numerous creditors. As regards the other half, a considerable portion of it had to be given to his dear wife whose fancy, about living separate from her husband in consequence of his tender treatment of her, had previously been indulged by an order of the Civil Court. Be that as it might, a second Major took charge of the Office and very soon promoted him to a grade beginning with Rs. 400. Not content with this, the Major has made him a Superintendent, superseding the just claims of another European clerk whose abilities are unquestionable but who has not any of those questionable qualifications that can at once compel an official superior to take an extraordinary interest in him, and who accordingly had been drawing a pay of only Rs. 400 although the period of his service was nearly 32 years. Moved by this act of injustice, the latter has taken furlough for two years, more with the intention of permanently retiring than of coming back to India.

As Superintendent, the gentleman to whom we refer has lately been instrumental in inducing his official superior, a third Major, to pass a circular order on the subject of the absence of clerks from duty through illness or otherwise. Before we reproduce that circular, it would be better to quote an earlier one issued at the height of the panic caused by the small-pox epidemic raging in the town. The united wisdom of the Major and his Superintendent will not then require comment. First read the following :---

"All members of the establishment who have infectious diseases in their households are warned to report the matter in order that such measures as may be necessary may be taken to prevent their bringing the infection to office. If it is discovered that this has not been done, the person endangering others in the office by such concealment will be severely punished.

2. Whenever the occurrence of any infectious disease is reported, a certificate from a qualified medical practitioner should accompany the report, stating on what date the infectious stage is likely to be reached and another certificate should be submitted when all danger of infection is passed.

3. The absence during the two stages will be treated as casual leave, every two days of absence reckoning as one day's casual leave. If the maximum of 15 days be exceeded by this calculation, the case should be submitted for special orders.

4. Officers in charge of the several branches of this office will use their discretion in applying the above rules."

Considering the circumstances under which these orders were issued, no one can find fault with them. Infection is carried from house to house, or person to person, by myriads of ways unknown to science. For all that, the *modus operandi* of its travel, when intelligible, should be provided against. It should be noted that sufficient discretion is given to officers in charge of the several branches in applying the rules. Compare now the above with the following stringent regulations applying, it should be remembered, not to half-a-dozen, or even a dozen or dozens of clerks but to men by hundreds whose social position, judged by the standard of their own country, is much higher than either the Major's or his favoured Superintendent's in European society in even India where rules are laxer than at home. These rules will speak for themselves.

"In consequence of the inconvenience caused to the work of the office by the large percentage of absences, the following rules will have effect from to-morrow the 11th instant.

1. Every assistant in the branch, absent on account of ill health, must, on the 3rd day of absence, furnish a medical certificate whether he rejoin on that day or not.

2. Should the Examiner see fit, in special cases the assistants will be required to obtain the counter-signature of a Presidency or Civil Surgeon to the certificate.

3. On return to duty on any day subsequent to the 3rd day of absence, assistants will produce a further medical certificate concerning their absence beyond that date.

4. The description of leave will be determined by the Examiner on the assistant rejoining, but except in exceptional circumstances nothing more than half pay will be given.

5. The cases of men who have been absent, without previously obtaining leave, for more than one day a month during the year, will be specially dealt with, and such men must be prepared to produce a medical certificate even for one day's absence.

6. No pay will be granted to any assistant absent without leave previously obtained, except on the ground of his own illness and he will further be liable to be dealt with for absence without leave.

These orders, it must be held, apply to assistants who catch illness themselves as well as those in whose families infectious diseases break out. A more stringent circular could not be issued for regulating the conduct of the native servants of Government. The majority of assistants do not, as a rule, call in any medical aid on the third day of illness. In case of small-pox, again, the eruptions do not appear till the fourth or fifth or even a later day. During an epidemic of pox, it is folly to call in medical assistance on the third day. Supposing a man ultimately gets the pox, for him to obtain a medical certificate on the third day, especially if he has no relatives or friends to look after him, is practically impossible. The provision about the counter-signature of certificates by a Presidency or Civil Surgeon practically amounts to the imposition of a mulct measured by the fee, not less than Rs. 16, demandable by such officer, it being well-known that the Civil Surgeon never examines a person without a fee unless the latter is sent to him by the head of a department. Besides, conscientious Civil Surgeons cannot countersign certificates in the majority of cases. Whatever their medical skill, how can they take upon themselves to state that a person whom they have not seen during the continuance of an illness was ill of this or that disease? In cases of pox, regular practitioners are seldom called in or they refuse to attend. Western medical science, whatever the measure of its pretensions, is powerless to deal with malignant cases of pox. The lower class of native practitioners, called *Tikadars*, however, are seen to very often treat almost every such case with success. Supposing such a case to occur in the family of a native assistant, a *Tikadar's* certificate is all that the assistant can produce. Will the Civil Surgeon countersign such a certificate? The entire circular is the outcome of absurd redtapeism. It seems to be a counter-blast against the first circular. Men made miserable by disease are sought to be made more miserable still by the action of their office heads. No discretion is allowed to heads of branches. These orders cannot be withdrawn too soon.

CHITRAL.

SIR R. LOW'S DESPATCH.

The despatch of Major-General Sir R. C. Low, K. C. B., commanding the Chitral Relief Force is as follows :—

I have the honour to make the following report on the action of 3rd April, when the Malakand Pass was captured by the troops under my command.

As previously explained by telegram, I learnt on the 1st of April that all three passes into Swat, viz., the Malakand, the Shahkot, and the Morah passes, were held by the enemy, and that the majority of them occupied the Shahkot and Morah passes.

At that time, the disposition of the troops of this force was so arranged as to attack the Malakand and the Shahkot Passes simultaneously on the morning of the 3rd of April. The 1st Brigade was then at Lundkhwar on the road to the Shahkot Pass. The 2nd and 3rd Brigades were at Jalala on the road to the Malakand Pass.

Consequent on the above information, I determined to deceive the enemy as to my intention by advancing cavalry to Pali on the Shahkot road on the 2nd of April. The idea that that pass would certainly be attacked was maintained, but I directed the 1st Brigade to join me at Darghai opposite the Malakand Pass on the morning of the 2nd of April, and hoped by a forced march on the night of the 1st of April to reach Darghai by 8 A.M., and carry the pass on the 2nd of April with the three brigades.

A storm of wind and rain, however, raged all through the night of the 1st, and at midnight I was obliged to abandon my intention of a night march, it being an impossibility for the men to load up the transport in such darkness, rain, and mud. All that could be done, therefore, was to start at day-break, and collect the three brigades at Durghai on the 2nd, and make the attack on the 3rd of April.

I may note here that, so far as deceiving the enemy as to my intention of attacking only one pass, the plan was completely successful, though the attack took place a day later than I had hoped for. The enemy had not sufficient time to get across the hills and help their comrades on the Malakand Pass between the evening of the 2nd of April, when they must have fathomed the plan, to the morning of the 3rd, when the attack took place.

The attack took place on the morning of the 3rd with the 2nd and 1st Brigades. It was my intention to use the 2nd Brigade only, the 1st being in rear with its mule transport ready to cross the pass as soon as captured, and march on the Swat river ; but as will be seen, I found the pass so strongly held, and so obstinately defended, that to gain the victory I had to utilize both brigades, and at the final moment I had only one regiment in reserve, the other three regiments of the 1st Brigade as well as all four regiments of the 2nd Brigade being engaged in the attack.

Starting from Darghai, the pass at first goes through a gradually narrowing valley to the north for about two miles, then bends to the north east for a mile and-a-half, where the high hills on the west drop precipitately into the pass. On reaching the bend of the pass to the north east, it was apparent that the pass was strongly held on the west side, the whole range being lined by men with flags and banners.

At this point the 4th Sikhs were sent to occupy a spur which jutted outsfrom the range to the west and they had to remain there, covering the advance, for the day.

The Guides Infantry were directed to ascend the highest point of the western hill, and after gaining the summit, to turd along the crest, and enfilade the position of the enemy which evidently extended from the highest point to the end of the range, and where, as already noted, the hill precipitately desends into the pass. The Guides Infantry had a most arduous task to perform ; they had to ascend the highest peak of the range, about 1,500 feet high, and attack and capture several *Sangar* full of the enemy, which were held by riflemen and crowds throwing rocks and stones down, and their advance was necessarily gradual.

Meanwhile, as the force advanced, the position of the enemy was disclosed. They occupied the whole of the crest of the western hill with numerous *Sangas* down the sides of the hill, each commanding the one below it, and their main strength was on the northern end of the hill where it precipitately descended into the valley. Three hills on the eastern side of the pass were not held by the enemy till after the point where the western hill dropped into the valley. Full advantage was taken of this fact.

There were three mountain batteries with the troops in action, namely, Nos. 3 and 8 Mountain Batteries, Royal Artillery, and No. 4 (Derajat) Mountain Battery, of four guns, in all 16 guns ; and these took up position after position on the eastern slope of the valley, and most successfully prevented any concentration of the enemy when the infantry advance was ordered.

It soon became apparent that if the assault was delayed till the position was turned by the Guides that the action would be unduly delayed and the Guides themselves seriously out-numbered.

At this time I also ascertain that, although the pass appeared to lie in the valley itself and to round the corner of the western hill where it dropped into the valley, yet that beyond this point there was no path nor roadway whatever, the valley being blocked with huge rocks and boulders, and that the crossing of the pass lay to the left over the heights to our left, and which was so strongly held by the enemy. Action was at once therefore taken to carry the hill to the left, which from this point was about 1,000 feet high.

The Gordon Highlanders were directed up the crest of the western hill from the point where it touched the valley. The King's Own Scottish Borderers were directed up the centre spur. The 60th Rifles were directed up the slopes from further back in the line, while the Bedfordshire Regiment and 37th Dogras pushed on, rounded the point from which the Gordon Highlanders commenced the ascent, and turning to the left, ascended the hill from the northern side, the 15th Sikhs being held in reserve.

As the infantry ascended it was seen how well the defence of the hill had been organized. The Gordon Highlanders and King's Own Scottish Borderers, ascending as they did on a direct attack, met the greatest resistance and suffered most. *Sanga* after *Sanga* was obstinately held, each *Sanga* as it was rushed coming at once under the fire of the one above it ; and here I may note the admirable service done by the artillery and Maxim guns ; several attempts were made by the enemy to concentrate from above the whole lower *Sangas* and positions, but all such attempts were frustrated by the admirable practice as the mountain batteries and Maxim guns over the heads of our advancing infantry, although at several points the *Sangas* were only carried by hand-to-hand fighting. The enemy were gradually driven from position to position, and eventually fled down the other slopes of the western hill as the head of the attacking columns reached the top, when the pass was captured and fighting over, though they were pushed down the other side as soon as the men got together.

The action was begun at 8-30 A. M and concluded at 2 P. M.

The total numbers of enemy are variously reported, but the actual numbers on the pass were probably about 10,000 to 12,000 men - some 3,000 armed, and the rest using rocks and stones.

The enemy's loss was said by themselves to be about 500, and road down the other side was covered with signs of numbers of wounded men having been carried away. Our loss 11 men killed, eight officers and 39 men wounded.

The 1st Brigade remained at the top of the pass, holding it, while the mules of the brigade passed up but the path was so bad that only a few mules reached the top that night.

HIGH COURT : CRIMINAL JURISDICTION

TWO IMPORTANT POINTS OF LAW

The Hon. Sir W. Comer Petheram, Chief Justice, and the Hon Mr Justice Beverley, lately heard the case of Durbari Mandar, petitioner, *vs.* Jagoo Lal, opposite party, and delivered the following judgment. -The facts out of which this rule arises as follow :—One Jagoo Lal on behalf of Raja Harballah Narain Singh applied in the year 1893 to the Munsif of Madhipura, for sanction to prosecute the petitioner, Darbari Mandar, for perjury and forgery, alleged to have been committed by him in a suit tried by the Munsif in the previous year. Sanction was at first refused, but upon appeal to the higher authorities a further enquiry was ordered, and sanction was ultimately granted by the Munsif's successor on the 10th March, 1894 ; against this order an appeal was preferred both to the District Judge and to this Court, but the order was affirmed, it being held by this Court, but that, notwithstanding his original refusal, the Munsif had jurisdiction to grant sanction subsequently upon fresh materials.

The order of this Court was dated 16th August 1894, and on the 28th September Jagoo Lal instituted proceedings before the Deputy Magistrate of Madhipura. The petitioner, Durbari Mandar, was accordingly arrested, but was discharged on October 30th, on the ground that when the proceedings were instituted (28th September) more than six months had elasped since the date of the sanction (10th March).

Thereupon, on the 28th November, Jagoo Lal applied to the successor of the Munsif who had granted the sanction of 10th March for a fresh sanction to prosecute, and fresh sanction was granted on 1st December. The Deputy Magistrate, however, who had discharged the present petitioner on 30th October, was of opinion that he could not make further enquiry into the matter unless he was ordered to do so by the District Magistrate, and he accordingly made a reference to that officer on the 15th December.

On the 22nd December the District Magistrate made the following order :—" I think it very doubtful that Section 195 can be evaded by the grant of a fresh sanction. If this was permissable, the rational of the limitation (*inter est reipublicæ at finis sit litium*) would disappear." Jagoo Lal then made an application to the Sessions Judge who, on the 15th February 1895, directed the District Magistrate by himself or by some other Magistrate to make further enquiry into the matter.

The present rule was then obtained from this Court to show cause why both the order of the Munsif granting fresh sanction on 1st December, 1894, and the order of the Sessions Judge of February 15, 1895, directing further enquiry into the charges of perjury and forgery should not be set aside.

It is contended in the first place that the Sessions Judge had no jurisdiction to over-ride the District Magistrate's order made under Section 437 of the Code, and in the second place that under the terms of Section 195 it was not competent by the Munsif to grant a fresh sanction to prosecute after the first sanction had ceased to operate by effluxion of time.

The first point was taken before the Sessions Judge, but that officer was of opinion that he has jurisdiction, inasmuch as the District Magistrate had not made any order under Section 437 of the Code.

We think it clear, however, that the District Magistrate did decline to order a further enquiry, and that his doing so must be taken to be an order under that section. Both the District Magistrate and the Sessions Judge are competent under Section 437 to order a further enquiry, but when a further enquiry has been refused by one of these officers, we think it would be an unseemly proceeding, to say the least, that it should be ordered by the other.

If the Sessions Judge was of opinion that the order of the District Magistrate was wrong, it was open to him to refer the matter to this Court under Section 438, but we are clearly of opinion that he had no jurisdiction himself to revive an order made by the District Magistrate under Section 437.

As however, it would have been competent to the Sessions Judge to report the District Magistrate's proceedings for orders of this Court, and as it is open to him to do so now, we are of opinion we ought to decide the second point raised in the rule, namely, whether when a sanction granted under Section 195 has expired by effluxion of time before any prosecution under it has been commenced, it is open to the prosecutor to procure a fresh sanction and to institute proceedings upon such fresh sanction. In the case of Jagdu Singh *v.* Harihar Pershad Sing, I. L. R. 11, Calcutta 577, this contention was raised before a bench of this Court, but that bench thought it unnecessary to express any opinion upon the point, because even, assuming that the Munsif who granted the fresh sanction in that case had power to grant it, the Court held that he had not exercised a sound discretion in granting it.

In the matter of the petition of Goolab Singh *re.* Dabi Pershad, I. L. R. 6, Allahabad 45, Straight, officiating Chief Justice sitting alone, expressed the opinion that a fresh sanction could be given if that already granted had expired by effluxion of time, but that opinion was a mere *obiter dictum*, as it was held that the proceedings under the first sanction given in that case were still pending. The point has, therefore, not been decided so far as we are aware, and it is therefore necessary to consider the terms and the mention of the sanction.

Section 195 is included in Chapter XV of the Code headed "of the jurisdiction of the Criminal Courts in enquiries and trials, and it falls under the heading B. Conditions requisite for Initiation of Proceedings.

Omitting those portions which are irrelevant to the present question, it runs as follows :—. . . . .

"No Court shall take cognizance—

(b) of any offence punishable under Section 193, 194, 195, 196, 199, 200, 205, 206, 207, 208, 209, 210, 211 or 228 of the same code when such offence is committed in or in relation to any proceeding in any Court except with the previous sanction or on the complaint of such Court or of some other Court to which such Court is subordinate.

(c) Of any offence described in Section 463 or punishable under Section 471, 475 or 476 of the same Code, when such offence has been committed by a party to any proceedings in any Court in respect of documents given in evidence in such proceeding except with the previous sanction or on the complaint of such Court or of some other Court to which such Court is subordinate. . . . . .

"Any sanction given or refused under this section may be revoked or granted by any authority to which the authority giving or refusing it is subordinate ; and no such sanction shall remain in force for more than six months from the date on which it was given."

Now what this section expressly says is this, that in respect of the offences described in clauses (b) and (c) no Criminal Court shall take cognizance of them unless the Court concerned in the offence shall either itself institute the proceeding, or sanction their institution, and that where the Court does not itself institute the proceedings but sanctions their institution, the proceedings must be instituted within six months from the date of the sanction.

As regards the complaint by the Court itself, no period of limitation is prescribed, it is clear that the Court may proceed either by way of complaint or under the provisions of Chapter XXXV, at any time.

But when the Court delegates the duty of prosecuting to another, when it merely sanctions the prosecution, then the plain intention of the section seems to be that the proceeding must be initiated within six months from the date of sanction, and the reason of this rule seems to be the very wholesome one that a private prosecution shall not be at liberty to procure sanction to prosecute from the Court, and then to keep the sanction pending *in terorem* over the head of the accused indefinitely.

Now if this is the true meaning of the section, it seems to us that this wholesome provision of the law is entirely nullified if a person is at liberty to apply for fresh sanction over and over again every six months. If that were to be allowed the Court would, in our position, be lending its sanction to enable a private prosecutor to do the very thing which the law is intended to prevent, and this, moreover, can only be effected by a fictitious use of the word "sanction."

If the Court sanctions a prosecution it sanctions it once for all ; there may be fresh order written on another piece of paper after six months, but that is not a fresh sanction, it is only repetition of the original sanction, and when the section speaks of "six months from the date on which the sanction was given" we think it must be taken to mean six months from the date on which it was given in the first instance, and not from any subsequent date on which the purport of the order may have been repeated.

That being our view of the section the rule must be made absolute to set aside the orders of the Sessions Judge, and any proceedings that may have been taken under the so-called fresh sanction.

Another important point arises in this case, but as it was not been argued we feel it unnecessary to do more than notice it. It is to be observed that the munsif who actually tried the suit out of which application for sanction arose, refused to sanction any prosecution ; the munsif who originally sanctioned the prosecution was a different officer, while the munsif who gave the fresh sanction was neither the munsif who tried the case nor the munsif who sanctioned the prosecution originally.

Under the circumstances we think it extremely doubtful whether the sanction was such as is contemplated by Section 195 C. Cr. P.

WHAT DREAMS MAY COME.

IN a recent lecture at the Royal Institution, Dr. B. W. Richardson says that the sleep of health is dreamless. "Dreams," says Shakespeare, "are children of an idle brain." If both the doctor and the poet are right it follows that idle brains are unhealthy brains. No doubt there might be truth in the inference, but that is not quite the point. Are *all* dreams signs of a diseased condition? To this the doctor says "No." He divides dreams into two classes ; those started by noises or other causes outside the sleeper, and those produced by pain, fever, or indigestion.

Here we inject a fact. We receive multitudes of letters containing this affirmation, almost in identical words. "*I was worse tired in the morning than when I went to bed.*" To this the doctor has an answer. He says, "*When we feel wearied in the morning very likely it results from dreams that we have forgotten.*" Quite so.

In other words there is a bodily condition which may prevent a person from working by day at his usual calling, but obliges him to labour all night under a mental stimulus of which he knows nothing save by its resulting exhaustion. These unhappy wretches toil harder, therefore, for no compensation, when they are ill, than they have to do to earn a living when they are well. What an infernal and frightful fact! And this too without taking into account their physical suffering at all times. "Night," said Coleridge, "is my hell."

From one of the letters referred to we quote what a woman says of her daughter : "*She was worse tired in a morning than when she went to bed.*" Poor girl. Those "forgotten dreams" had tossed her about as a ship is tossed in a tempest. Night was her day of labour.

The mother's simple tale is this. "In June, 1890, my daughter Ann Elizabeth became low, weak, and fretful, and complained of pain in the chest after eating. Next her stomach was so irritable that she vomited all the food she took. It was awful to see her heave and strain. For three weeks nothing passed through her stomach except a little soda water and lime water. Later on, her feet and legs began to swell and puff from dropsy. She was now pale as death and looked as though she had not a drop of blood in her body, and was always cold. Month after month dragged by and she got weaker every day. She could not walk without support, for she had lost the proper use of her legs, and her body swayed from side to side as she moved.

"A doctor attended her for twelve months, and finally said it was no use giving her any more medicine as it would do no good. In May, 1891, I took her to the Dewsbury Infirmary. She got no better there, and I thought I was surely going to lose her. She was then thirteen years of age.

"One day a lady (Mrs. Lightoller) called at my shop, and seeing how bad my daughter was, spoke of a medicine called Mother Seigel's Curative Syrup, and persuaded us to try it. I got a bottle from the Thornhill Lees Co-operative Stores, and she began taking it. In two days she found a little relief; the sickness was not so frequent. She kept on with the Syrup and steadily improved. Soon she was strong as ever, and has since been in the best of health and can take any kind of food. After she had taken the Syrup only two weeks the neighbours were surprised at her improved appearance and I told them what had brought it about—that Seigel's Syrup had done what the doctors could not do, it saved her life. Yours truly, (Signed), (Mrs.) SARAH ANN SHEARD, 19, Brewery Lane, Thornhill Lees, near Dewsbury, October 11th, 1892."

The melting cause of all this young girl's pitiful suffering was indigestion and dyspepsia, dropsy being one of its most dangerous symptoms. It attacks both youth and age, its fearful and often fatal results being due to the fact that physicians usually treat the symptoms instead of the disease itself.

"A child's dreams," says Dr. Richardson, "are signs of disturbed health and should be regarded with anxiety." The same is true of the dreams of older people. They mean poison in the stomach and point to the immediate use of Mother Seigel's Curative Syrup.

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AND

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DROIT ET AVANT.

Reis and Rayyet

(PRINCE & PEASANT)

WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND SOCIETY

VOL. XIV. CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, MAY 4, 1895. WHOLE NO. 673.

CONTEMPORARY POETRY.

DERMOT'S PARTING.

OH waken up, my darlin'—my Dermot, it is day,—
The day—when from the mother's eyes the real light dies away!
For, what will day-light be to me, that never more will see
The fair face of my Dermot, come smilin' back to me?
Arise, my son—the morning red is wearing fast away,
And through the gray mist I can see the masts rock in the bay.
Before the sea-fog clears the hill, my darlin must depart—
But oh the cloud will never lift that wraps the mother's heart!

Sure then, I'm old and foolish? what's this I'm sayin' now?
Will I see my fair son leave me with the shadow on his brow?
Oh no! we'll bear up bravely, and make no stir, nor moan—
There will be time for weepin' when my fair son shall be gone!
I've laid the old coat ready, dear—my pride this day has been,
That on your poor apparel shall no rent, nor stain be seen:—
And let me tie that kerchief, too;—it's badly done I fear,
But, my old hands tremble sadly—*with the hurry*—Dermot dear!

And are you ready, darlin'? Turn round, and bid farewell
To the roof-tree of the cabin that has sheltered us so well—
Leave a blessing on the threshold, and on the old hearthstone,—
'T will be a comfort to my heart, when I sit there alone.
And often at the twilight hour, when day and work are done,
I'll dream, the old time's back again—when *you* were there, my son.
When you were there—a little thing that prattled at my knee!
Long ere the evil days had come to part my child and me.

The dear arm is still round me, the dear hand guides me still!
'T is but a little step to go—see now, we've gained the hill;
Is that the vessel, Dermot dear?—the *mist* my eye-sight dims—
Oh shame upon me! now—what means this trembling in my limbs?
My child! my child! oh let me weep awhile upon your breast;
Would I were in my grave! for then—my heart would be at rest—
But now, the hour is come—and I must stand upon the shore,
And see the treasure of my soul depart for evermore!

I know, my child! I know it—the folly and the sin!
But oh, I think my heart would burst to keep this anguish in—
To think how in yon sleeping town, such happy mothers be,
Who keep their *many* sons at home! while I—I had but thee!
But, I have done. I murmur not—I kiss the chastening rod,—
Upon this hill—as Abraham did—I give my child to God!
But not like him, to welcome back the precious thing once given—
I'll see my fair son's face again—but *not on this side heaven.*

—*Examiner.*

DEAFNESS. An essay describing a really genuine Cure for Deafness, Singing in Ears, &c., no matter how severe or long-standing, will be sent post free.—Artificial Ear-drums and similar appliances entirely superseded. Address THOMAS KEMPE, VICTORIA CHAMBERS, 19, SOUTHAMPTON BUILDINGS, HOLBORN, LONDON.

WEEKLYANA.

DR. Fitzedward Hall expressed in this paper his sense of the loss occasioned by the death of Dr. Sambhu C. Mookerjee. He again writes in a private letter:—

"It grieved me, too, that Dr. Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee was cut off in the midst of a career of distinguished usefulness. His life, though not long, was a very full one; and his countrymen have lost, in him, a man of signal ability and sterling worth."

***

ELSEWHERE will be found a letter from the Minister, Sulana State. It does not refer to the State itself but to a matter in which all India is interested. It announces a cure for cobra poison. It is a plant discovered by the Maharajkumar, and is given freely to any one who may wish to verify its virtues.

***

IT is said that the meanest of millionaires is Mr. Russell Sage. For over seven years he hasn't bought a new hat, and for years his lunch has never cost him more than two pence half-penny a day.

***

THE following will be read with interest by many:—

"It is commonly said that Sir Charles Russell never made less than £20,000 or £25,000 per annum for many years preceding his promotion. Large as his income was, there were half-dozen men at the Bar running it very close. Both Sir Richard Webster and Sir Edward Clarke are making fully £20,000 a year; and men like Mr. R. B. Finlay, Sir Henry James, Mr. J. T. Murphy, Mr. Lawson Walton, Mr. Fielding Dickens, Mr. W. Willis, Mr. Cozens Hardy, Mr. Graham Hastings, and others, are credited with almost equally large earnings. But most Q. C.'s are, of course, very much less fortunate.

Some of the Indian barristers, particularly of the Calcutta High Court, are not behindhand, in this respect, to their brethren of the English bar. They have made litigation doubly costly.

***

WE take the following from *Luzac's Oriental List*:—

"Everyone who takes an interest in the island world known as Insulinde or the Indian Archipelago will have welcomed with pleasure the announcement of an 'Encyclopædie van Nederlandsch-Indie' in course of publication under the able editorship of Professor P. A. van der Lith and Mr. A. J. Spaan whose names are a guarantee of the absolute trustworthiness of the work. It is not intended to make it so full and exhaustive as several modern publications of this class are, but to keep it within the limits of three volumes of about 40 sheets each, and make it a handy book of reference on any topic connected with its main object. Judging, however, by the first fasciculus just to hand, and taking into account the tendency towards expansion as works of the kind proceed, we should think that that limit may probably have to be exceeded, without in the least impairing the usefulness of the work. A special feature aimed at, to enable students to study certain questions more in detail, is to consist in full literary references under each head. Veth's Geographical Dictionary of the Indian Archipelago, and the many valuable essays by the late Professor Wilken are patterns in this respect, and we can but recommend the contributors to the present Encyclopædia to follow their example. From a careful examination of the first fasciculus it would appear to us that our recommendation is to a certain extent justified."

Few persons in India know anything about the Indian Archipelago. Yet European scholars have extracted a mass of truths from a careful study of the ethnography, language, habits and customs of the diverse peoples inhabiting those islands which stretch from Asia to Australasia.

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Subscribers in the country are requested to remit by postal money orders, if possible, as the safest and most convenient medium, particularly as it ensures acknowledgment through the Department. No other receipt will be given, any other being unnecessary and likely to cause confusion.

Again :—

"A fresh and most powerful stimulus has just been given to the study of folklore by the publication, at the University Press, Cambridge, of the first volume of a complete translation of the ancient Buddhist story-book known as the Jâtaka. The idea of dividing the work of translating among different hands, so as to be able to encompass its publication within a reasonable time, was first conceived by Professor Cowell, who assigned the first volume (stories 1 to 150) to Mr. Chalmers, the second and fourth to Mr. W. H D. Rouse, and the third and fifth jointly to Messrs. H. J. Francis and R. A. Neil, reserving to himself the general control and superintendence of the work. The members of this guild of Jâtaka translators, adhering as they do to a general uniformity in technical terms and transliteration, have agreed each to exercise a free hand, within certain limits, in his own work, so that every member of the band, unhampered by canons of style and diction, is left to render the original as he thinks most suitable. The advantage of this system is apparent in the volume before us which, while faithfully reflecting the original text, in terseness and vigour of language leaves nothing to be desired. Special attention should also be drawn to the Editor's preface which, brief as it is, is pregnant with valuable details concerning the history and character of the Jâtaka literature. Half of the second volume is already in type and the remainder will follow in quick succession."

The Jâtaka is of great value to those who wish to study the peculiarities of Buddhism. Many of the stories are characteristic. The plan of bringing out large works through the co-operation of several scholars is certainly advantageous

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HERE is an interesting piece of information, sufficient to whet one's curiosity without the means of gratifying it :—

"A story is going the rounds of London Society about an emerald necklace, which will make it almost as famous as the diamond necklace which was bought for poor Marie Antoinette. It is alleged to have been a portion of the crown jewels which were stolen from the Tuileries in 1792. The necklace was lost to sight for many years, until in a miserable lodging in an obscure quarter, an old Irishwoman died, amongst whose belongings it was found. It was taken to a pawnbroker who gave £5 for it. After having it some months in his possession he thought he would clean up the dirty necklace with the green stones, and found them all brilliant emeralds. He sold them for £7,000. Lord Rosebery has since purchased them for £20,000. People are wondering for whom they are intended, and the story is revived of his approaching marriage with the Duchess of Albany."

To trace the necklace to the possession of the poor Irishwoman must now be a feat of great difficulty, especially as the poor woman is dead. Through what strange vicissitudes must it have passed in its descent from the palace to the garret The earlier history of the Koh-i-noor is a series of surmises, though its later history is not altogether unreliable. It is perhaps not generally known that at one time the Koh-i-noor incurred the risk of passing into the Dhobi's hand. After its transfer from the palace of Dalip Sing to John Lowerence, the latter, having consigned it to his coat pocket, forgot all about it amid the thrilling incidents of the week. Suddenly reminded of its existence, he became really alarmed. If it could not be recovered, nobody, he thought, would believe that he had taken so little care of it as to have lost it through carelessness. Fortunately, he succeeded in recollecting that he had kept it in one of the pockets of his coat. That piece of clothing waited, in a basket of cairn, for the Dhobi. John Lawrence ran up and brought it out from the place. He began to breathe freely from that amount.

***

MR Justice Hill has been elected President of the Faculty of Law of the Calcutta University.

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READ the following from the *Civil and Military Gazette* .—

"Hanuman monkeys are regarded as sacred in India, and they know it ; having become more impudent ruffians even than monkeys in general, in consequence. They take up their quarters in the villages, and swarm about the streets and over the roofs with all the confidence of proprietorship They stroll about the market-places and help themselves to whatever is eatable with perfect impunity, for the pious Hindu must treat them with respect and forbearance. Nevertheless, if he is quite sure that nobody is looking to bear witness to the sacrilege, the worthy tradesman will sometimes so far prefer his own corn, or his pastry, to his immortal welfare, as to catch the depredator and give him a sly 'lick of a stick,' and so induce him to give some other merchant a turn of custom Also, it is not considered irreligious to cover a roof with sharp thorn branches, by way of dissuading Hanuman from looking thereon with an eye to plunder of what may be kept below. The villagers, however, in general take much care for the *bander-log*—the monkey-people—and lay out for them many unconsidered trifles of food. Shameless vagabond as he is, however, the Entellus monkey has one virtue—he kills snakes He does it, however, with a certain exultant savagery that gives one a doubt as to whether a virtue may be no virtue. He is always careful first to see that the snake is fast asleep. Then he catches it by the neck with a lightning grab, and makes for the nearest stone. On this he steadily grinds the snake's head till he has ground away the jaws, and with them of course the poison fangs. Then screaming with exultant delight, he either tears the rest of the reptile to pieces, or throws it to the young monkeys to be despatched as slowly or as quickly as their fancy may suggest. It is very hard on the snake, who, after all, has one virtue of his own ; which is, that he sometimes kills an Entellus monkey."

It is not true that the Hanuman is treated with such consideration even by Hindus all over India. In many districts, the stick is freely laid on his back if he is caught in acts of robbing. Nowhere, however, does a Hindu kill a Hanuman. That would be an act of downright sacrilege. As to Hanumans killing snakes, we think it would be news to many. They are known, however, to destroy hornets by thousands and thus do a good turn to villagers. As soon as a Hanuman discovers a hornets' nest, he approaches it very cautiously. Quickly destroying the two or three hornets that mount guard over it, he stops up the entrance with his fingers joined together, leaving a very little opening through which his foes may come out. As each insect seeks to escape, Hanuman seizes it dexterously and cuts it off in twain with his teeth. He would sit for several hours in this way, till, in fact, the nest has been entirely emptied of its dangerous denizens. Intelligent as the Hanuman is, it is seen to discover a stupidity in one respect that is very remarkable. In certain districts of Bengal, when householders get particularly annoyed with him, they dig a little hole and cause an earthen jug with a narrow mouth but broad belly to be placed in it and properly fastened by cords and sticks. Some fruit,—a brinjal, perhaps,—is then thrown into the jug. The operations having been performed in the presence of Hanuman, the latter comes down as soon as the villager leaves the spot. Slyly looking into the jug, he inserts his hand into it for bringing out the fruit. He seizes it, but the mouth of the jug being narrow, his closed fist with the fruit within it does not come out. He begins to pull hard. Just then the villager approaches with a stout stick and begins to belabour the mischievous thief. The latter suffers the beating, all the while seeking to bring out his hand. Of course, if he only lets the fruit off, he can easily escape, but that is a feat of reasoning of which he is not capable. The jug has actually to be unfastened and taken up and broken before the representative of prehistoric humanity can be let off. The circumstance has given rise to the expression *Bándure-mut* in Bengali, applied to the efforts of one to retain something whose retention results in injury and loss.

***

THE monthly meeting of the Calcutta Corporation held on Thursday was almost entirely taken up by questions and answers. Mr. Graham entered a protest and asked whether the questions were in order as they did not relate to any business before the meeting. The questions, however, elicited important facts :—

"(1) Will the Health Officer please furnish the Commissioners with the weekly death returns for small-pox from the 1st January to the 15th April of the current year and compare them with the weekly death returns for the same period of any previous year in which an epidemic of small-pox approaching the present in regard to the severity prevailed in this city?

(2) Will the Health Officer furnish the Commissioners with a table of deaths from fevers for the last fifty years, similar to the table marked A. which was annexed to his Report on the present small-pox epidemic, dated the 11th February, 1895 ?

(3) Will he please note in such table the year in which the present sewer system was completed, and in which the sewage of the city was first discharged from the sewer outfalls ? Is there any record to show how the death-rate from fever has been affected in the different wards by the extension of the sewer system to those wards ? If so, what results are shown ?

(4) Could he also note the year in which vegetables which are usually eaten *uncooked* (e. g., lettuces, celery, spring onions, radishes, water-cress, &c.,) were first supplied to the Calcutta markets from the reclaimed tracts at the Salt-water Lakes known as the 'square mile' ? Any particulars he can furnish in this connection will be useful.

(5) Are there any statistics available to show, whether or not there has been during the last six months a decidedly marked increase in the number of cases of typhoid fever in this city ? If so, in what localities has typhoid prevailed and amongst what classes ?

(6) Are these cases of typhoid in any degree attributable to the sewers, whether it be to their faulty construction, want of repair, want of thorough and efficient cleansing or otherwise ?

(7) Is effect given to the provisions of section 321 of the Calcutta Municipal Consolidation Act, 1888 : and if not, why not ?

(8) Are any returns made to the Corporation or to the Health Officer, by medical practitioners which will enable the Commissioners to ascertain definitely to what extent 'dangerous diseases' (cholera, small-pox, diphtheria, typhoid, &c.,) exist, or prevail, in the different wards of the city, apart altogether from the mere death returns (in other words, 'case returns' as distinguished from 'death returns' ?)

(9) Does the Health Officer consider what such 'case returns should be made ; and, if not, why not ?

(10) Is much of the milk-supply of the city drawn from the tracts adjoining the Salt-water Lakes ?

THE answers are :—

"No. 1. The following statement shows the number of small-pox

deaths week by week from the 1st of January to the middle of April in the two epidemic years of 1865 and 1895. There were 3,710 deaths in 1865 against 1,235 in 1895 for the town proper.

1865.—*(a)* Week ending. *(b.)* No of Deaths. (Town) 1895.—*(c.)* Week ending. *(d.)* No. of Deaths (Town.) *(e.)* No. of Deaths (Suburbs.) *(f)* Total Deaths.

(a.)	*(b.)*	*(c.)*	*(d.)*	*(e)*	*(f.)*
7th Jan. ...	91	5th Jan.	24	1	25
14th " ...	143	12th "	17	2	19
21st " ...	142	19th "	31	3	34
28th " ...	200	26th "	34	2	36
4th Feb, ...	241	2nd Feb.	37	6	43
11th " ...	310	9th "	58	2	60
18th " ...	301	16th "	70	3	73
25th " ...	293	23rd "	73	19	92
4th Mar. ...	249	2nd Mar.	106	17	123
11th " ...	325	9th "	103	22	125
18th " ...	383	16th "	138	25	163
25th " ...	323	23rd "	171	62	233
1st April ...	308	30th "	153	47	200
8th " ...	187	6th April	124	42	166
15th " ...	214	13th "	96	44	140
Total ...	3710		1235	297	1532

2 and 3.—I am sorry I am unable to furnish the fever statistics for the past 50 years, I can give only the annual registered deaths from fevers ward by ward since 1869. In 1870 the sewage of the city was first discharged from the sewer outfall. In 1874 the southern portion of the town was practically completed except Hastings which was drained only a few years ago. In 1888 the sewage system was completed. The only recorded medical opinion regarding the effects of the drainage in the earlier years is that of Dr. Tonnerre, the Health Officer who in March, 1875, after referring to the completion of the drainage in the South division of the town and its extension in 1874 to some of the main streets in the northern portion says: 'It is an undoubted fact that the improvement has not kept pace with the progress of the drainage. On the contrary, with the extension of the drainage there has been a retrograde movement in the sanitary condition of the town.' As to my own opinion about the effects of the drainage I think it is well known in this city. To my mind there can be no doubt that the extension of the drainage has in most parts of the town caused a great improvement in its cleanliness and in its amenities: and that the sewerage performs a most important function in carrying away the immense amount of water with which the inhabitants of Calcutta are supplied and which if allowed to sink and soak into the soil instead of being promptly removed would cause a vast amount of sickness and mortality. At the same time the full benefits to be obtained from an efficient sewerage system are not secured in Calcutta, because the sewerage of the town is in a most unsatisfactory condition which is evident enough from the offensive smells which emanate from every opening, especially from those in connection with the brick sewers. Since my first year of office in Calcutta I have systematically drawn attention to the necessity of improvement of the sewer system and after nearly 5 years of reiteration and insistence succeeded in inducing the Commissioners to appoint Mr. Baldwin Latham, a sanitary expert who has been connected with the drainage and water-supply of over 100 cities, to report as to what was required to be done. Mr. Baldwin Latham confirmed my views as to the great defects both in flushing appliances and in the construction of the existing sewerage of Calcutta, one of the most important points being a defective outfall, and he recommended certain remedies. But it appears as if another 5 years of constant reiteration and insistence are needed before the essential parts of his valuable recommendations are to be begun; four years have already passed. In the meantime the town is year by year becoming most unhealthy, a condition of things to which I have drawn special attention in my annual reports, requesting always that Mr. Baldwin Latham's recommendations should be put into operation.

The town drainage should not be confused with the newly proposed scheme of Suburban drainage which the Commissioners have recently, on my advice, sent to Mr. Baldwin Latham for his opinion. The two are quite separate and not necessarily interdependent on one another; and there is no very important reason that the recommendations of Mr. Baldwin Latham should not have been given effect to long ago, and I earnestly trust now that attention has been again drawn to the subject that steps will be taken to secure that the recommendations be promptly and efficiently carried out. Without wishing to cause unnecessary alarm it is my duty to state that long delay in this matter will constitute a grave danger to the inhabitants of Calcutta.

4. The markets of Calcutta are not supplied with lettuce, celery, spring onions and water cress from the Salt-water Lakes, but for the past 20 years Indian corn, different kinds of sag, cauliflowers, large radishes, and cabbages have been supplied.

5 and 6. Calcutta is not subject to any considerable outbreaks of typhoid fever. It has an excellent water supply, and an Asiatic population which enjoys a peculiar immunity from typical typhoid fever. A few cases occur every year among Europeans and Eurasians and they are usually traceable to defects in house drainage, which, owing to the condition of the sewerage, are particularly dangerous. The localities recently affected have been Chowringhi, Russell Street, Council House Street and Canning Street. My experience of typhoid in Calcutta is that it is most prevalent among the business men of the city. There were two deaths registered from typhoid in 1891, three in 1893, and four in 1894 from October to March.

7. Circulars were sent to all practitioners in Calcutta in 1889, directing their attention to the section, and postcards were supplied to be filled up and forwarded to the Health office on their being called in to see an infectious disease. The success has been very limited, for though the European practitioners usually notify, it is quite exceptional for the Indian practitioner to do so. Possibly the best reminder would be to print the words of the section on the back of the license receipts.

8. None to enable the Commissioners to ascertain definitely.

9. I think that it would be most useful, but as half the people in the town are never attended by medical men, it might be necessary to ask the head of the house to notify, and, in the case of small-pox, to compel the Sitola Pandas to notify, as comparatively few cases are attended by any one else.

10 No. There are 879 cowsheds within the boundary of the Municipality and outside milk comes from Sodepur and other places on the Eastern Bengal Railway."

The Health Officer admits the unhealthiness of the sewers as the cause of unhealthiness in the town. Dr. Simpson attributes the presence of typhoid fever in European houses to defective drainage and offensive sewerage. Native houses are as much, if not more, exposed to sewer gas. The law compels house owners to connect their houses with the sewers which are dangerous. There is no escape from them. The city is doomed.

NOTES & LEADERETTES,

OUR OWN NEWS,

&

THE WEEK'S TELEGRAMS IN BRIEF, WITH OCCASIONAL COMMENTS.

THE Mikado is unwell, having caught a severe chill. The protest delivered to Japan by the Ministers of the three Powers is couched in the most friendly terms. It maintains simply that the cession of the Liaotong Peninsula to Japan will be a source of constant menace to Pekin, and also to the autonomy of Corea. The statement that Japan has already replied to the protest of France, Russia, and Germany is not correct. Russia has requested China to delay the ratification of the Treaty of Peace for a few days. Many Censors in China have petitioned the Throne opposing the conditions in the treaty of peace. The Japanese consider that when China has ratified it no ground will exist for the intervention of European Powers. The Japanese will not regard calmly the action of any Powers attempting to deprive Japan of the fruits of her victory over China. The relations between Russia and Japan are regarded as serious. At the Russian War Office frequent conferences are taking place. The Chiefs of the several military departments are busily engaged in considering the strategic measures which should be adopted in the event of the Mikado finally refusing to modify the treaty. The Russian Press virulently attacks England's refusal to co-operate with the three Powers, and regrets the conclusion of the Pamir agreement. The papers threaten hostile action on the Indian frontier. The French press exhibits increasing objection to France joining Germany and Russia in coercing Japan. In the articles published the feelings of distaste and distrust of German co-operation in the matter are distinctly expressed. The *Times* says that Russia is preparing to mobilize her troops although the necessity of doing so is not expected. It also publishes a telegram from Kobe stating that the Japanese Ministry has resolved to resist Russian dictation. It is believed that the United States support Japan. The Emperor of China has summoned Li-Hung-Chang to the capital. The ratification of the treaty of peace is probable.

The *Times'* correspondent at Hongkong reports serious troubles throughout the Island of Formosa. Her Majesty's cruiser Leander has gone to Takow. The Germans have landed a force of marines at Tamsin in order to protect the foreigners there. A mutiny has broken out among the Chinese troops and have killed their General. The savages from the interior of the Island descending the hills attack the Natives. Reuter's correspondent at Shanghai telegraphs that the Chinese in Formosa beggar Great Britain to prevent the Japanese annexation of the Island and offered a large share of profits from the mines. Great Britain has declined to entertain the request.

THE trial of Oscar Wilde opened at the Old Bailey on April 26, and terminated on May 1. The Jury brought in a verdict of acquittal on the charge of conspiring to procure, and in respect of gross indecency, which the Crown Prosecutor withdrew. With regard to the other charges of indecency, the Jury were unable to agree, and as there was no likelihood of their coming to a verdict, they were discharged. There will be a fresh trial at the next sessions. Bail was refused.

THE meeting of knights, dames, and associates of the Primrose League took place at the Covent Garden Theatre on April 26. Mr. Balfour in addressing the meeting said the existence of serious dissension in the constitutional Unionist Party, reports of which were current throughout the country, was a fiction. The political and personal friendship of Mr. Chamberlain was never, he said, greater than at present, and he hoped the permanent union of the Conservatives and the Liberal-Unionists would eventually replace the present alliance.

AN immense reservoir at Bousey, near Espinal, South America, has burst, causing great havoc. A great wave formed and swept the Adiete Valley for ten miles, carrying everything before it. Many villages were completely destroyed, and 110 persons were drowned. Reports continue to arrive of the immense destruction of property, several hundreds of people are rendered houseless, and are encamped in the pestilent marshes.

A FORCE of British marines landed at Corinto and occupied the town. Nicaraguan troops are entrenched in the vicinity. Nicaragua formally protested against the occupation of the town by the British, characterising the action as an outrage. To seize an unowned sum by force of arms, it declares to be contrary to all international laws as well as to the common dictates of right, and justice, and equity. The feeling against the British in the Republic is intense. Senor Jose Santos Zelaya, President, has urged the Minister of Foreign Affairs to hand his passports to the British Minister at Mangua. The mob paraded the streets yelling and shouting, "Down with English tyrants!" They tried to remove the British escutcheon from the Legation. The neighbouring Republics are urging Nicaragua to pay the indemnity The Consuls of the various European Powers also urge the Government to yield to the British demand Two warships of the United States have been ordered to the Nicaraguan coast. That Government is striving to arrange a settlement of the difficulty According to the latest advices, Nicaragua agrees to pay the indemnity a fortnight after the British evacuation of Corinto, Great Britain accepts the proposal provided the payment is guaranteed.

THE French Mission to the Court of the Sultan of Morocco starts shortly for Fez.

SEVENTY deaths from cholera have occurred at Jeddah.

THE ex-Speaker has taken the title of Viscount Peel.

TENDERS are invited by the Secretary of State for India for two millions of India Bills for renewing the Bills accruing on the 12th of May. In consequence of this the idea of a loan has been abandoned.

THE Duke of Orleans fell off his horse while out riding near Seville and broke his leg. Pneumonia and fever have supervened, and his condition is serious.

IN the House of Commons, on April 30, Mr. Shaw-Lefevre introduced the one man one vote Bill. The Bill was read a first time The House has read for the second time the Corrupt Practices Act Amendment Bill, which is designed to prevent the growing practice of making during the election contest false statements affecting the personal character and conduct of a candidate.

MAJOR VON WISSMAN, former administrator, has been appointed Governor of German East Africa.

IN consequence of the transport Thibet, belonging to the Madagascar expedition, being badly ashore, the Canal traffic is stopped.

THE May Day demonstrations throughout Europe were generally conducted in an orderly manner. Trivial conflicts with the authorities took place in Austria and Belgium.

SIR Lepel Griffin probably succeeds Sir Henry Rawlinson in the India Council.

IN the House of Commons, on May 2, the Chancellor of the Exchequer submitted the Financial Statement for 1895 96. The estimated revenue for the present year amounts to £95,662,000, the expenditure to £95,981,000, the deficit being converted into a surplus of £181,000 by reimposing an additional duty of sixpence on beer and an extra sixpence on spirits. The surplus of the past year, amounting to £776.000 will be applied to the reduction of the National Debt. In the Customs revenue, tea yielded £189,495 or £37,000 more than the estimate, while coffee decreased. Sir William Harcourt, in the course of his speech, took the opportunity of warning the House that it will be impossible to continue the increasing national expenditure without having recourse to the intolerable burden of additional taxation. Probably, he said, this will be the last occasion upon which he, from his responsible position, will be able to give such a warning to the House.

The *Times* connects the warning with the report which is current of the imminent resignation of Lord Rosebery and the speedy dissolution of Parliament. The Budget is well received by the English press.

THE Secretary for War, in reply to a question, said that he was unable to concur in the proposals of the Government of India for shortening the periods of service required for promotion in the Staff Corps, consequently the rules will remain unchanged. Majors and Captains in the Staff Corps permanently appointed Commandants and Second-in-Command in native regiments will be given a step in temporary rank. Replying to a further question, Mr. Campbell Bannerman said that Her Majesty's Government was considering the policy which should be pursued with regard to the future of Chitral.

ON Monday a telegram reached Calcutta from Bombay reporting the death of the Jam Sahib of Jamnagar—a Kathiawar ruling Chief—on the previous Sunday. Jam Shri Sir Vibhaji Ranmalji, K.C.S.I., the Jam Saheb of Jamnagar, or Nawanagar, was nearly 69 years of age, having been born on the 8th of May, 1827. He was the son of Jam Ranmalji, who was the adopted son of Rani Achuba, the widow of Jam Jasaji who died in 1814 without male heirs. Sir Vibhaji, like the Jam Ranmalji, was a famous sportsman, though not a lion-killer. He had a harem of 14 Ranis and 4 Mussalmanis. The first issue commonly named Kalu Bhá, was by a Mussalmani. He was proclaimed heir but is now, we believe, in confinement at Ahmadnagar He was formally known as Kalyan Singh and was married to a Ghassia Rajputni and has a son Lakhu Bhá—Lakshman Singji—who was the year before last in the 1st class of the Raj Kumar College at Rajkote and has a great taste for science. Next the Jam adopted his first cousin's son—Ranjit Sing—who was sent to Cambridge and has got his degree and is the famous cricketeer, the Captain of the Cambridge Liberal Cricket Club. Ranjit was adopted on condition that on the birth of an issue of the loins he would be cut with a jaghir worth Rs. 20,000 a year. He too was set aside and a boy born of a Mussalmani, named Jasso Singh, now about 15 years of age, was recognized as the heir-apparent. Later on, one of the Ranis was delivered of a son. On the birth of that son the Raja refused to pay any more the expenses of Ranjit's education. But European interference forced the Raja to pay not only Ranjit's expenses but also the costs of his education in Europe, as he was a brilliant boy and could be sent there. Attempts were made at two different times to have Kalyan Singh and Jasso Singh recognized by the British Government as heirs to the Nawanagar State. The Foreign Office said that it would not interfere then, but would decide after the Jam's death between the several claimants.

THE following appeared in the New York *Nation* of March 21 :—

"If the German fashion prevailed with us, telegrams of congratulation would, on this seventieth birthday of Dr. Fitzedward Hall, be pouring into Marlesford, England, where this American scholar has his home. His name is not unknown to our readers, who have for years enjoyed his expositions of English verbal usage, such as no other man living could produce. But he has experienced the usual fate of an absentee, in being overlooked by his countrymen, and in being accordingly without his proper honour here. That he is even a Harvard graduate—a member of the class of 1846, and classmate of Profs. Child, Lane, and Norton—is little suspected by the great majority of the alumni of that institution, to which he has given many valuable Oriental books, and recently some five hundred Oriental MSS., many of the greatest rarity. Those, again, who read Dr Murray's recurring acknowledgments of Dr. H.'s invaluable and incomparable services in supplementing the readers [illegible] proof readers of the New English

Dictionary—acknowledgments which, to be adequate, would seem exaggerated—do not think of Dr. Hall as an Orientalist who spent sixteen years in India His career there, whose beginning was made memorable by a shipwreck in the treacherous river Hoogly, was the honourable one of public usefulness as superintendent of schools, and as professor of Sanskrit at the sacred city of Benares, the very centre of Hindu learning. In India he familiarised himself with divers Eastern languages, was the first American to publish a Sanskrit text, and has, in the Journal of the Asiatic Society (*i.e.*, of Bengal) and in Indian magazines and printed volumes, been a most prolific writer and editor on Oriental subjects, as the British Museum Catalogue will testify. Of his achievements in the various fields of Hindu antiquity, we may mention his books and essays on the philosophical systems, especially the Sankhya, on dramaturgy, astronomy, and epigraphy; although published for the most part three or four decades ago, they are still of great and almost undiminished value and authority. His wonderful *Belesenheit*—which competent authorities pronounce to be as admirable in Sanskrit as we know that it is in English—was brought to bear not only upon the annotation of texts, but also upon some of the intricate problems of Hindu literary chronology, with extraordinary acuteness and success. Since 1862 he has been constantly employed by the British Civil Service Commissioners as examiner in Sanskrit, Hindustani, Hindi, Bengali, or English. All this time has been going on the note-making on points of English which, as he lately wrote to the Chicago *Dial*, he began in 1838, or when he was but thirteen years of age, and which has borne fruit not only in the present help to Dr. Murray's international enterprise, but in classical works like his *Recent Exemplifications of False Philology* (1872), *Modern English* (1873), *On English Adjectives in -able* (1877), and others more controversial. An intense American, it has been Dr. Hall's lot to dwell among Englishmen for more than three-fifths of his life. His profound learning won for him, as long ago as 1860, the highest recognition from the University of Oxford—the degree of D. C. L.—just as also his modest and unfailing kindness and public spirit have won him a recognition (perhaps even dearer to him) in the little hamlet in Suffolk that has so long been his home. But it ought not to happen that his seventieth birthday should pass without a word of cordial and admiring remembrance from his native land."

Though seventy years old, Dr. Hall has few of the infirmities of age, and is as capable of work as if he had the light burden of only half the number of his years on him. His health being such, with his experience of seventy years, he can work all the better. He lives a quiet life in a very pleasant and retired corner of England, near the North Sea. He was never known to live fast. While in India he led an abstemious life and seems not to have departed from it His love has always been his books; his garden affords him no small delight; and he feels pleasure in relieving the poor. He has not visited America for twenty-one years and hopes to end his days—which we hope will be prolonged—in England, where he has resided for twenty-six years. After his return from India he travelled largely and saw much of various nations and peoples. During the sixteen years that he was in this country, he contributed largely to the *Bibliotheca Indica* and the *Journal of the Asiatic Society of Bengal*

HERE are the nett results of three of the last examinations of the Calcutta University:—

	Bachelor of Arts.		
Honour Course	Triple Honours	...	2
	Double Honours	...	11
	Single Honour	...	83
Pass Course	...	...	350
	First Arts.		
First Division	...	...	61
Second Division	...	...	324
Third Division	...	...	903
	Entrance.		
First Division	...	...	541
Second Division	...	...	1208
Third Division	...	...	994

THE *Bengal Times* has been let off with the following apology We have no space to notice it this week.

"I, E. C. Kemp, Editor and Proprietor of the *Bengal Times*, do hereby, without reserve and limitation, withdraw, cancel and annul, every imputation and insinuation made, in respect to, and concerning Baboo Saroda Prosad Sarkar, Deputy Magistrate, Dacca, in his public and private capacity, in whatsoever form, it or they may have appeared, between the months of October and November last past, and also, subsequently, in the said paper, *Bengal Times*; and I regret, that such imputations and insinuations, which are entirely unfounded, wholly unjustifiable, utterly devoid of truth, and grossly defamatory—should have been allowed publication in my said paper I express, in a penitent spirit, my sincere sorrow for the same, and I retract them all unreservedly, and apologise to the said Baboo Saroda Prosad Sarkar, for their insertion. For this unconditional apology Baboo Sarode Prosad Sarkar has kindly consented to withdraw the proceedings pending against me and my printer, Shaik Mahomed Hossein, and not to institute, or take, any further proceedings, Civil or Criminal, against us. I undertake to publish this apology in 3 successive issues of my paper, the *Bengal Times*, and also in the local papers, the *Dacca Gazette* and the *East*, in two successive issues of the same."

MR. Walter Davies, Honorary Magistrate, Calcutta, sentenced a durwan, in the employ of Mr. Grossman, to a fine of Rs. 20, in default three weeks' rigorous imprisonment, for assaulting Mr. Anderson According to the report in a morning paper, Mr Anderson was driving in a hackney phaeton, the driver of which, seeing the accused in the centre of the road, called out to him to move away The man, instead of so doing, stopped the horse, and going up to the driver, assaulted him. At this stage Mr. Anderson remonstrated, and the accused, resenting the interference, took a stick from another durwan who was close by and aimed two blows at Mr Anderson, who warded them off, one blow grazing his head and another his arm. Unless the attack was premeditated, it is difficult to understand that the durwan could muster up courage for it. The durwan was standing in the middle of the road, where he should not have been disturbed unless the driver was justified in abandoning his side of the road

THE office-master in a first class mercantile firm in this city belaboured, a high native officer in the establishment with blows to unconsciousness The Saheb kicked the Baboo down the stairs and when the Baboo took shelter in a conveyance on the Queen's highway his master pursued him there, took him out, and thrashed him valiantly The native assistant was unable to attend office for fever that had set in. He was, however, sent for and rewarded for his forbearance with an increase of Rs. 25 to his pay He would have gained more if he could return the blows This is not the first time that the office-master has so treated the native assistant. We wish he had a Punch under him who would have set him right and taught him to govern his temper

MR John Croft, successively of Messrs Graham & Co, Croft Wells & Co. of this city, is under trial, in the Sealdah Magistracy, for manufacturing liquor without license The charges are—

"That he on or about the 22nd day of April, 1895, at 40, Tangra Road, had in his possession for sale a greater quantity than is allowed by law of excisable articles, *viz*, liquors and spirits, without a licence or pass and thereby committed an offence punishable under section 61 of Act VII of 1878 (2) Having for a period of about four months from January to April, 1895, at the place aforesaid, manufactured without a license excisable articles, to wit, liquors, and thereby committed an offence punishable under section 53 of the said Act."

As one of the few Europeans whose heads were not turned by the furious opposition to the Ilbert Bill, as the first European who tried to mitigate the mischief done by Mr Branson, as almost the only non-official European who was present at the grand staircase to welcome back Lord Ripon, Mr Croft, true to himself, waived his right to be tried by a European and entirely submitted himself to the jurisdiction and adjudication of the Baboo Magistrate He pleaded not guilty, and asked for time as his Counsel and solicitor were absent from Calcutta One witness from Messrs Mackenzie Lyall was examined and the case postponed to the 8th of May

IN the interest of a particular person, attempts, overt and covert, are being made to dissuade electors from returning Dr Rashbehary Ghose to the Bengal Council from the Burdwan Division. He is decidedly the best candidate that could be returned He has already proved his worth in the Council. The objection raised is that he is disqualified by non-residence in the Division The rules about residence were never meant to be strictly enforced Even if they were, they could not affect him He is as much a resident of Burdwan as of Calcutta In Burdwan he has his home and family and must as a rule spend Every year he visits his native place, where he has established and maintains a school, has dug tanks and otherwise interested himself in his native village. Another charge against him is that he seeks the Lower Chamber as a stepping stone to the Upper He has been in both the Councils and done good service He now comes forward because he has been asked, in answer to a call of duty, and is willing to continue in the Bengal Council for the full term if he be honoured with the choice of the Burdwan Municipalities.

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A TELEGRAM to a contemporary states that

"Prince Nasirulla's followers pocketed all the silver spoons and forks in the bungalow they occupied in Bombay. The annexation of these articles appears to have been simple and natural—discovery causing not a single blush to dye an Afghan cheek. When the indignant Goa boy—we may presume he was a Goa boy—in charge, hinted at restitution, he was informed that the confiscation of the spoons and forks was strictly according to precedent—an 'Afghan custom. Afghan customs, such as these, offer the possibility of picturesque and unlimited development. A Guildhall banquet would offer interesting scope for their illustration, or, indeed, almost any form of hospitality in England. Various worshipful bodies bent on the entertainment of His Highness had better take note."

Yes, there is precedent. The Khan of Khelat set the example. He was allowed to take away the articles after a report by the Foreign Office to the Viceroy himself. Not that the Khan had waited for the result of the reference which was, of course, made unknown to him, for he had appropriated the articles after the dinner was over, quietly and as a matter of right without the slightest suspicion that he was doing anything which anybody in the world would disapprove of. The matter is not without an explanation. It may very probably be that when the guest in Afghanistan happens to be superior in social position to the host, the latter is bound to make over to the former every article used by him in course of the hospitable entertainment. Prince Nasirulla is an intelligent man. He will certainly see that Afghan customs, when so inconsistent with Western notions of property, are not enforced by the members of his retinue while travelling in foreign lands. Travel blunts the angularities of individuals. There is every hope of these Omrahs coming back, after their European tour, with notions of ownership as correct as those of any Anglo-Indian journalist while not dealing with attractive paragraphs and items of news in papers included within his exchange.

The ideas of hospitality in the East are widely different from those of the West. Eastern etiquette requires that the guest should not go into any expense while under the roof of the host, and that he should take away some memento of the hospitality offered and enjoyed. The Prince of Wales, while he realized his "dream of dark women and swelled donkeys," was presented with the golden spoons and forks he had used in a native entertainment, at Behar, in his honour. His royal brother too, before him, had been similarly presented with a silver *Hookah* and a gold *uttardan* and *Pandan*, at Calcutta. There are particular *Brahas* (religious rites) performed by Hindu ladies of the wealthier classes, in which the custom is invariably followed of making over to the Brahmans fed every article of brass, silver, or gold that is used by them on the occasion. In Bengal, among a certain section, it is still the custom for the son-in-law to claim every article used by him in his first visit to his father-in-law's after marriage. In this connection may be mentioned the custom, widely prevalent in Bengal and Gangetic India at least, of poorer Brahmans taking away, after eating their fill as much of the costly viands as the host is able to give them. Indians do not use spoons and forks. If they did, perhaps the custom of carrying away those also, after the manner of their Gándhárá neighbours, would have been noticeable among them to this day. In the expressive language of the Bengal gluttons—we cannot call them epicures—the practice of bearing away food from festive entertainments in the houses of the well-to-do, is called *Cchinda-bandhan* which has its corruption in *Cchándan* or *Bándhan*. The philosophy of these customs is not far to seek. In most Asiatic countries, the guest is viewed as a sacred person. The Sanskrit scriptures declare him to be an embodiment of all the deities. The house-holder is enjoined to withhold nothing from his guest. We read in the Mahabharata that Krishna achieved great renown by playing the host, for a period of six months, to the highly capricious and irritable ascetic Durvásas, who proceeded to the length of yoking Rukmini, the favourite queen of his host, to a car on which he journeyed for a while, whipping the delicate queen for forcing her to mend her pace. Talk of the annexation of spoons and forks after that?

IN our last number, speaking of the maladministration of criminal justice by the Nadiya Magistracy, we referred to a recently transferred Deputy Magistrate. We have since been informed that the connection of the said Deputy with the religious syndicate formed for "floating" a new shrine at Meapore, is more nominal than real. The idea of turning Meapore into Mayapore and of making it a rival to Nadiya originated in the fertile brain of the late Bhakti-Binod Deputy of Kishnaghur. But he knew that his brother Deputy, as an inhabitant of Nadiya, and as the leader of the Chaitanyaite Gossains and Babajis of that place, had influence enough to spoil the Bhakti-Benodian game, and so he managed to get a possible enemy into his camp by offering him the nominal Chairmanship of his Board. The installation ceremony of the Meapore idol was held in the name of the Brahman Deputy. He would not, perhaps, mind obliging a brother official religiously bent. But we think we may safely give him credit for understanding that two birds in hand are much better than one in the bush; and we feel no doubt that as he has a prospering Chaitanyaite chapel in his own house, and as he has acquired a share in the ancient and well-established shrine of the great Vishnuvite prophet of Bengal, he can have no motive to use his influence and opportunities for the benefit of a rival concern now in the embryo stage.

HERE is a characteristic paragraph from an Anglo-Indian contemporary:—

"We regret to hear that another of those lamentable accidents, which prove that casual discipline is not wise in the case of punkah coolies, occurred in a boarding-house in Harrington Street. A punkah coolie was neglecting his business, and the gentleman who employed him remonstrated, probably with his foot, as the punkah coolie had immediately afterwards to be taken to hospital, where he has since died. The case is extremely awkward for the gentleman concerned, who has to have left Calcutta next week. It doubtless goes without saying that the punkha-wallah was the victim of his own enlarged spleen, and that the blow he received was of an extremely slight character, but the circumstance is one which should once more impress the general public with the advisability of other methods of stimulating the energy of this particular domestic."

The above deserves study and is capable of yielding many lessons. There is mention of "regret" upon learning that another of those "lamentable accidents" has occurred. It is, of course, an "accident." That is certain; and the accident only proves that it is not wise to inflict "casual discipline" on punkah coolies. Many such accidents, since the first invention of the punkah, had happened, but these could not clearly inculcate the unwisdom of such discipline. The necessity of another accident for that purpose could not be regarded as entirely obviated. The story of the punkah coolie's neglect and the gentleman's practical remonstrance with well-shod feet are invariable concomitants of such accidents, and no one should, therefore, stop to notice them particularly. The removal to the hospital and the death are incidents of the same kind, which also should not arrest the reader for a moment. There has been no *post mortem* examination, but the writer in our contemporary has no doubt that the deceased coolie had an enlarged spleen, and not simply that, but also that "the the blow he received was of an *extremely slight* character." It does not appear whether the writer was present at the spot to notice the very mild measure of muscular energy that was put forth in the act of remonstrance, or whether the statement is due to his own experience of that energy in consequence of his having ever before been himself its object. The death, however is deplorable, not because of a human being having been sent out of the world untimely, not because of the poignant grief into which the deceased's parents or wife or children would be plunged not because of, perhaps, half-a-dozen helpless human beings being deprived of their means of sustenance, for who knows that the deceased was not the only earning member of his family? No; considerations such as these do not deserve to be indulged. In a land of niggers what matters it whether there is one nigger the less or more? The real circumstance to deplore in the matter is its "extreme awkwardness," for it is calculated to delay the departure, which has been fixed, of the good gentleman for home. The disappointment felt by him is certainly of tragic interest. In the hands of an Æschylus how affecting could it not be made? The trunks have all been filled with the clothes necessary for the voyage. The passage has been secured. Letters have been written by the mail. The very day has been named. When, lo, a wretched nigger, with an enlarged spleen, takes it into his stupid head, of malice aforethought, to die at the slightest touch of

his skin by way of legitimate remonstrance! Niobe in tears cannot move one to deeper pity. The grief of Œdipus himself is nothing compared to the sorrow brought about by such a disappointment. While, as regards the nigger that has breathed his last and has taken an eternal farewell of his father, mother, wife, and children, he has only furnished an additional example of that inveterate hostility which the people of his race bear to their white fellow-subjects—an hostility that is not ashamed to interfere, of set purpose as it should seem, with definite arrangements made by a gentleman going home.

IN a later number our contemporary says :—

"Our readers will be relieved to learn that the punkahwallah, yesterday reported the victim of a combination of enlarged spleen and his master's boot, came to his end only in the imagination of a number of his fellow-Aryans. He was discharged from hospital yesterday, and various embarrassing possibilities are happily averted. The incident, however, points an obvious moral, which will probably not be lost upon either the the punkahwallah community or the *sahib-log* of Calcutta."

So, when the writer was under the impression that the coolie had died, he was sure that death had been due to enlarged spleen and that the character of the injury inflicted had been extremely slight. As soon, however, as he heard that death had not ensued, he had nothing but *gâli* for the crafty relatives of the injured coolie—"his fellow-Aryans"—who had been guilty of the extraordinary offence of bearing the man to hospital for stanching his wounds, if any, or for a proper internal examination. The writer does not tell us as to how the rumour of the man's death first arose. From the paragraph we have already commented upon, it is, however, evident that the believer in the enlarged spleen and the gentleness of the touch had himself credited the story of death. His imagination, therefore, was no less at fault than that of the poor "fellow-Aryans" of the man who are held up to ridicule.

REIS & RAYYET.

Saturday, May 4, 1895

RELIGION DES VEDA.

DR. Oldenberg is one of the greatest of German Orientalists. He is the author of a Life of Buddha which has been translated into English. He is also one of the scholars employed on the series called the *Sacred Books of the East*. The opinion of such a *savant* about the ancient Vedic religion is certainly entitled to great weight. But it does not seem that in his recent work entitled *Religion des Veda* he has been able to rise above the level of thought that has been attained by his collaborateurs in the same field. Their industry in prosecuting the necessary researches deserves the highest praise. Europe, however, is no more the proper place for the study of the religious systems of the world, than Iceland is for the cultivation of Botany. Europe knows only one form of religion namely, Christianity. In India, every form of faith may be found in the living state, from the ancient and very nearly defunct nature-worshipping Vedic cult, to the snares invented by the latest patron-saints of the most unmitigated forms of wickedness and immorality.

In an article on the evolution of the theocratic art which appeared in these columns in November 1893, we pointed out, as clearly as we could, what the true place of the Vedic cult is among the other religious systems of the world. We will not repeat what we then said. Suffice it to state that the primary characteristic of the Vedic religion is that it provides its priesthood with a machinery for exacting only ghee, meat and wine from the people, by promising to bring about rainfall in return. That was enough to satisfy the aspirations and wants of our primitive priests. Their success naturally led their descendants to make more exorbitant demands on their followers, and by methods less wasteful than fire worship. Hence, the Vedic cult has been very nearly superseded by idol-worshipping and Guru-honouring religions. Neither of these two forms of faith involves any waste, and so far they are on an equal footing. But each of them has its own advantages and disadvantages. Idol-worship, in many of its aspects, resembles indirect taxation, and has, therefore, considerable advantage over Guru-worship which is always more difficult to enforce. Idols are inanimate objects, and it is not possible, in the name of a stone, metallic or wooden image, to command the enjoyment of many things that the Guru might desire. Hence, in modern Hindu society, idol-worship and Guru-worship have existed side by side. The Hindu priest's ambition is always to have his own self accepted as equivalent to Siva or Krishna. To enforce such homage is not always easy, and, hence, the more cautious and unambitious priests encourage idol-worship, while Guru-worship is enjoined by only a few autocrats of a domineering nature. To make an attempt to measure the spirituality in either the Vedic cult or in any of the modern idol-worshipping and Guru worshipping phases of faith, is simply Love's Labour Lost. A great many of them do, no doubt, deal in a little genuine morality. But the poison within the pill is very nearly the same in all cases. It is absolutely useless to enquire whether any of them have not a thicker coating of moral sugar than the others. With reference to Dr. Oldenberg's *Religion des Veda*, the following notice appears in an English paper.

"Since the time of its discovery by the western world of the existence of the Vedic literature much has been written on the subject and many theories advanced, while opinions on it have ranged from extravagant eulogy on the one side, to unjust depreciation on the other. A work like Professor Oldenberg's 'Religion des Veda' strikes the mean between these extremes. His view is a strictly impartial one. In many cases his theories differ from those of his predecessors or contemporaries in the same field, and as a rule his arguments convince by the more scientific nature of their method. With regard to his conception of Vedic religion as a whole there will probably be disappointment felt by those who incline, from whatever reason, to regard it as one of a highly spiritual type. Professor Oldenberg shows it to have been characterised by a very worldly spirit and to have been almost destitute of the elements which might have transformed it into a moral force capable of moulding the life of the nation or the individual. It came early under the blighting influence of the priesthood, an influence which accounts for much of the extravagant artificiality of Vedic literature. Especially interesting is the professor's treatment of the survivals, from prehistoric periods, of religious thought represented by the magic spells, rites and incantations of the Yajur and Atharva Vedas as well as by the remnants of fetish worship and totemism traceable through the whole literature. The subject is exhaustively treated in the third section of the book on the Cult of the Veda. Passing from a general account of the Vedic gods, Professor Oldenberg proceeds to treat the principal deities such as Indra and Agni in detail. These were originally deified natural forces, but as time went on their connection with these was gradually forgotten and many of their original features were lost. So with the myths relating to the gods. Some of these represented originally processes in nature and are the mythic molecules which the professor warns us from mistaking for the aggregates of such molecules which may owe their existence to causes like poetical invention. The book apart from its merits as a contribution to Indian research has a scientific value which should commend it to a wider circle of readers than is usually found for works of this kind."

The writer of the notice seems to be of opinion that because Professor Oldenberg does not take an extreme view, therefore his doctrines must be held to be unexceptionable. The idea that the right way to pursue is to steer a middle course, is quite as fallacious in navigation as in philosophy. In the concluding passages of the above extract, the writer has propounded a very important fact of our theological history. But he has not made any attempt to explain why the deified forces of nature came in time to be regarded as entitled to worship, quite irrespective of their capacities to give us rain heat, light, wealth, or health. The fact is that in primitive times the priest has to promise tangible

service. As the result very often shows that he has not the powers to fulfill such promises, he takes the earliest opportunity to shift his ground, and to impress upon the lay members of the community the belief that there is great merit in worshipping the gods without looking for any reward.

THE ALLEGED IDENTITY OF SAYANA AND MADHAVA.

Among the names most renowned as theological and juridical commentators in Sanskrit literature, those of Sayana and Madhava enjoy such preminence that questions relating to their personal history cannot but be regarded as highly interesting. That these two revered names were borne by two different individuals, is amply proved by the accounts obtainable from the numerous works ascribed to them. In some of these they are expressly spoken of as brothers whose father's name was Mayana, and whose mother's name was Srimati.* In spite of the evidence thus afforded, the late Dr. Burnell, in his *Vansa Brahman* propounded the doctrine that Sayana and Madhava were one and the same individual, and his view has been adopted not only by some of the best European scholars, but also by some Hindu authors, as, for instance, Mr. R. C. Dutt. In Sir Monier Williams's recent work on Bramhanism and Hinduism, the learned author states in a footnote that the preponderance of evidence seems now to be against the identity of Sayana and Madhava. In the body of his work, however, he has given countenance to the view of the late Dr. Burnell, and there can be no doubt that European scholars generally still consider the question as an open one. In this state of things, it is highly gratifying to find that the subject has been taken up for discussion by a learned Tailangi scholar named G. Sri Rama-Murti. This gentleman is the author of a large number of Telegu works on the history of the Deccan, and holds at present a high appointment under the Maharaja of Vizianagram. The circumstances which led him to interest himself in the question and the manner in which he conducted his investigations are described as follows :—

"Several modern English Orientalists have attempted to write the history of this Madhavachary, the great annotator of the Vedas, but want of sufficient information dissuaded them from completing the same. Mr. Max Müller in his annotations to Rig Veda, dwells upon the subject and regrets the lack of further information. He stated that he wrote to the late Dr. Burnell, the well known Orientalist, then living in Southern India, asking him to obtain information on certain points, by making enquiries at Sringeri where the successors of Madhavachary now reside, but Dr. Burnell could not make the enquiry, as the Guru of Sringeri was absent in Northern India, but replied to the queries proposed by Mr. Max Muller from such data as he then possessed. Mr. Max Müller, not satisfied with this information, was of opinion that some of the points raised still required careful investigation.

About May 1884, I happened to go to Madras, for the purpose of getting certain information for my history of the country, now in preparation, and I came across the remarks made by Mr. Max Muller about the life of Madhavachary. As a native historian and an inhabitant of the neighbouring district, I thought it but right on my part to attempt to help the great Orientalist, by ascertaining these facts from the Guru of Sringeri. When I enquired as to the Guru's whereabouts, I was informed that he was about to go on a pilgrimage and might not return to his head-quarters for 30 or 40 years. So I at once hastened to Sringeri, which is situated in the south-western corner of the Mysore Territory on the Western Ghauts. Fortunately, I met the Guru who kindly gave me copies of the old works that contain the history of the various Gurus that ascended the Mantra Simhasanam of Sringeri. I had already collected some materials on the subject which were at Cocanada in the Godavery District, where I live, hence the work could not be immediately commenced. In the course however of a few years I was able to write a book giving an account of the life of Madhavachary, in the Telugu language. At the suggestion of some friends who have read this work, I have prepared this abridgment of what I have written in Telugu.

The works consulted by me in the completion of the life of Madhavachary are as follow :—1. Vidyaranya Saka, 2 Mani Munjaribhedini, 3 Kalamadhavam, 4. Vedardha Prakasika, 5. Parasara Madhavam, 6. Panchadasi, 7. Guru Parampara, 8, Cannada Acharya Cheritram, 9, Madhaveeyam, and some other unimportant books. Of these books, those numbered 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 are printed and published, and of the others I have lately procured copies. Excepting the second book all the printed books give the pedigree of Madhavachary's family. They say that the name of Madhava's mother was Srimati, his father was Mayana; Sayana and Bhoganada were his brothers. His Sutram was that of Apasthamaba, his Sakha (branch) that of Yajurveda, his Gotram that of Bharadwaja."

In the list of the works of Madhava given in the pamphlet under notice, the author has not included many of the most important works of the great political minister of the Vizianagram Rajas, as, for instance, the Jaiminya Nya Mala. If Mr. Murti had referred to the Introduction to the Anandasram edition of this great work, he would have found many important authorities in support of the conclusion at which he has arrived. Mr. Murti has not given a list of the works ascribed to Sayana. But he refers to one of these, namely, the *Yajana Tantra Sudhanidhi*, and says that in it the author Sayana, speaks of himself as the son of Mayana and the younger brother of Madhava. That statement, if admitted to be genuine, is as conclusive about the non-identity of Sayana and Madhava, as the collophons usually found in the works of Madhava himself. Mr. Murti makes no mention of the work called "Madhaviya Dhatur Vritti" by Sayana. This book contains the very same kind of evidence that Mr. Murti has found in the *Yajana Tantra Sudhanidhi*. At the end of each Gana in the *Dhatur Vritti*, Sayana speaks of himself as the son of Mayana, and the brother of Madhava. The original words are *Iti Sri Purva Dakshina Paschima Samudradhisvara Sri Kampa Raja Suta Sangama Maharaja Mahamantrina Mayana Sutena Madhava Sahodarena Sayanacharyena Viracheetayam Madhaviyam Dhatu Vrittau*, etc.

Mr. Murti would have done well to have referred to these fact and authorities. However, what he has done is highly creditable to him, and we congratulate him on the success he has achieved in collecting the valuable evidence that he has condensed in his book. We congratulate also the Maharaja of Vizianagram for having in his service such a learned and painstaking scholar. There are few Rajas in the country, now-a-days, the atmosphere of whose durbars is pure enough to be congenial to the temperaments of such good and learned men.

* See the Introduction to Sayana's Commentary on the Taittirya Sanhita. See also the treatise on Hindu Law called Parasar Madhavya.

Letter to the Editor.

A CURE FOR SNAKE-BITE.

Sir,—Maharajkumar Sahib Jeswant Singh, heir-apparent, of the Sailana State, C. I., has discovered a plant which works as a sure antidote to cobra venom. It has been tried with success in many instances. Those that are desirous of trying the remedy and make sure of its virtues, are requested to apply to the undersigned, who will be glad to supply it to them free of all charges, with directions how to use it, and who will feel obliged by their communicating the results of their experiments to him.

N. M. Khory,
Minister, Sailana, C.I.

THE INDIAN MEDICAL CONGRESS

THE VICEROY'S SPEECH.

The projectors of the Congress were fortunate in having secured the patronage of the Viceroy from the very beginning. Sovereigns and their representatives have in all ages, and especially in the present, shown their willingness to extend their patronage to any movement which is calculated to promote the general weal. This is certainly very gracious on their part, considering how little time is left them after the conscientious performance of their own legitimate duties,—the duties of the state, involving the regulation of its affairs as regards its external and internal relations.

Next to the maintenance of peace within and without, the pre-

servation of the health of the people is now recognized as a legitimate duty which it would be suicidal for any State to neglect. The medical department forms accordingly a most important department of all civilized Governments. Considering the as yet uncertain state of the medical sciences, the differences of opinion which prevail in and devide the medical profession, and the profound ignorance of matters medical which, from want of general education and enlightenment, still prevail among the laity, it must be admitted that it is no ordinary task for any Government to keep an eye over its medical department so as to maintain it in its full efficiency *au courant* with the progress that is being daily made. We have been led to this observation in view of the tendency to stereotyped conservatism and a bigoted and liberal resistance to new discoveries to which men in official positions and power become but too prone.

We were present at the inaugural meeting, and it has appeared to us not a little singular that the Viceroy's speech should have appeared in a mutilated form in the medical journal, which, being under the editorship of a most important member of the Congress, no less than its projector and one of its joint secretaries, was expected to give faithful reports of the speeches made, addresses delivered, and papers read at the congress.

The *Englishman*, however, has done a service by giving a full report of the Viceroy's speech, which we look upon as a most important deliverance.

His Excellency began with expressing his inability to understand how it happened that this was the first Indian Medical Conference. Lord Elgin must have remembered that medical congresses, national and international, were being held for upwards of thirty years in Europe, and, therefore, could not help wondering how in the face of this fact Indian medical men did not till now realize the importance of such assemblies. Perhaps it would not be altogether idle and unprofitable to speculate as to what could have been the reasons of this apparent apathy and indifference, certainly want of earnestness and enthusiasm on the part of the medical men of India.

From what we have said in our last number about the composition of the Medical Profession in India, it must be evident that the idea of a medical congress could not possibly originate in the indigenous practitioners, the Kavirajs and Hakims. These men, though as we have said they do command success in practice which is sometimes striking, cannot possibly have, from their absolute ignorance of biology, any comprehensive idea of medicine as a science with all its relations to other sciences. Besides, these men are so wedded to their authorities that they cannot conceive of any possibility of advance upon their teachings, and necessarily look upon all progress with suspicion and distrust. And though some of the most enlightened of them have been startled by modern discoveries in medicine and surgery, their eyes have not been sufficiently opened for the reception of new truths and the improvement of their respective systems. Hence we could not expect them to entertain the idea of medical congresses for the purpose of taking a survey of the progress already made in order to lay down lines for further progress.

The idea of a medical congress, then, could only originate in the scientific section of the profession, and the homœopathic branch of it being in the position described above, the idea of a congress, however originated, could only be carried out by the oldest and the largest branch, which as we have seen, constitutes the dominant majority. Now here in India this dominant majority is formed almost entirely by Government officials, in whose exclusive monopoly are still all the most important posts, and who alone, therefore, enjoy opportunities of observation and research from which non-official medical men in a manner are excluded.

It must be said to the credit of the Indian Medical Service that the members of it have not neglected their opportunities, that as far as their multifarious administrative duties have permitted, they have done much to advance the medical and the collateral sciences. But we are of opinion that much more could have been done if they had not formed an exclusive service, if they had not been overburdened with work, and if the heads of the service had not been pampered with fat pay at the expense of the lower grades. Much more could have been done if the non-official members of the profession had been allowed free and fair play in the race of competition.

Nothing so forcibly supports the view we have taken as the fact at which the Viceroy expressed his surprise, and the fact that the idea of the recent Congress was conceived by a gentleman who does not belong to the service.

We have dwelt on this subject at some length because, as must now have been apparent, of its great importance, and we trust that it will lead to a revision of the policy of the Government as regards the recruiting of its medical service.

We now proceed to consider the other parts of the Viceroy's speech. As a non-professional utterance on a professional subject it cannot be expected to escape unscathed criticism. Nevertheless, a careful perusal of it shows much it is characterized by an amount of thoughtfulness and [illegible] which a professional man might well envy. In describing the medical profession and the qualities of the heart which the exercise of it calls forth, Lord Elgin spoke like a veteran professor delivering an introductory lecture. "No effort of oratory is requisite," said His Excellency, "to describe the noble profession, whose chief aim is the relief of human suffering, and which offers opportunities to those who follow it for the exercise of some of the highest qualities of which our nature is capable,—the prompt decision, the steadiness of purpose, the courageous, or, if need be, the heroic devotion to duty which we sometimes specially claim for man, the intuitive instinct, the quick and ready sympathy, the tender care which we gladly confess finds its highest examples in woman." How ingeniously and beautifully is it here shown that it would be to the advantage of the patient world if the medical profession were followed by both the sterner and the gentler sexes, each having its special and necessary sphere of usefulness.

The Viceroy then assured the Congress that the Government of India was not indifferent to its proceedings, because he said, "no one will deny that one of the first duties of an organized Government is to consider how the health of the people living within its jurisdiction can be improved or maintained." His Excellency with a thorough mastery and grasp of the subject added, —"As it appears to me, there are two distinct lines on which to approach this question; we may either pursue an enquiry into the nature of the diseases which specially affect the country, or we may turn our attention to the habits and mode of life of the people in relation to the prevalence of disease. It is obvious that on both sides great differences will arise according to varying circumstances of time and place. The diseases of the tropics, or, at any rate, the conditions under which we are attacked by them, are not the same as those of the temperate zone. The customs of the East are not those of Europe, and it cannot, I think, but be advantageous that the circumstances which affect us in India should be considered here in India."

Lord Elgin confined his observations to the second branch of this inquiry, namely, the connection of the habits and customs of the people with the subject of Public Health, as one with which Government was chiefly concerned. "It was here that the non-professional student of the subject," said he, "feels more at liberty to intrude, and indeed I cannot deny that occasionally a certain amount of jealousy of scientific sanitation is found amongst those who have to deal practically with questions which arise. I need not say that I have no sympathy myself with the jealousy, but I must honestly add that I think it sometimes finds an excuse—I will not say a justification—when theories are ridden too hard. I hold very strongly that in sanitary matters, as in many others, the best way to secure real progress is to begin by forming a public opinion in its favour, and that action in advance of, or in opposition to, public opinion, is often apt to retard, rather than promote the cause we have at heart."

The Viceroy thus handled with admirable delicacy a most delicate and difficult subject. As ruler of a vast population with time-honored habits, customs, creeds, and prejudices more varied than the races of which that population is composed, he had to interpose between them and the scientific sanitarian who, in the ardor of his conviction, thinks that he cannot have any respect for prejudices and creeds and customs and habits of any kind when they interfere with health.

Having, in the course of his recent tours, met a large number of representatives of municipal committees and other local bodies who, in their addresses to His Excellency, always laid stress on what they had done, or proposed to do, in the matter of water supply and the like, Lord Elgin could not help noticing not only that there were some signs of the growth of public opinion in India on sanitary questions, but that public opinion in England had not gone much further. He related the following incident that occurred in the course of his travels as evidence in point. "I was walking one day through a village in a remote district. The ruins that lay about it bore testimony to greater importance in days gone by. There was, I was informed, no pretence of any sanitary arrangement, or water-supply, and the people suffered severely at certain seasons from fever. But I was struck forcibly by the fact that, in house after house which I passed, the doorway and its surroundings were scrupulously clean. My mind reverted to many an instance where the contrast was not favourable to Western civilization."

Candour and outspokenness are the noble characteristics of the genuine Englishman, and this candid comparison of Western and Eastern civilization, as regards sanitary matters, shows that Lord Elgin has not allowed himself to be prejudiced against everything Indian by Anglo Indian influences. His Excellency thus meets any objection that might be taken to the inference he has drawn from a solitary instance: "I know the danger of arguing from a singular instance, but I can only use the opportunities I possess, and all I would argue from this little experience of mine is the necessity of toleration. We hear a good deal of the opposition to and prejudice against reform arising from custom. I should like to seek for and gladly acknowledge the encouragement which [illegible] example is worth anything, I believe,

can also be found therein. Somethings, of course, we must insist upon, but where there is a fair question of expediency,---where the difficulty comes from religious feeling, local customs, financial pressure, or even personal prejudice, I believe there is only one safe rule which I ventured to define to a friend who once asked my advice in a case of the kind as 'unlimited patience.' There can be no surer test of the sincerity of a man's belief in his cause than the good-humoured acceptance of any reverse in the struggle on the ground that it can only be temporary."

Thus, throughout, the Viceroy spoke as a statesman of liberal and advanced views and as one well-informed even in a technical and professional subject. Nothing could be more sound and practical than the advice he gave as to how reforms generally are to be carried out. Tolerance and unlimited patience must indeed be the qualities which should characterize all true reformers. Of course it is not denied that there are, and may be, evils arising from custom, prejudice, and religious convictions which may so injuriously and deeply affect life and health and morals that tolerance becomes impossible and even unlimited patience gets exhausted. For instance, it is not possible to have any tolerance of and patience with Sati and human sacrifice, certain forms of religious practices which essentially consist in drunkenness and debauchery, the massing of large numbers of human beings in limited spaces in free defiance of the simplest and clearest sanitary laws, &c. And yet Government has only been able to deal effectually with evils which entail direct loss of life ; and is yet impotent to deal with evils which undermine morals, or which indirectly lead to sacrifice of life. Hence even the most enlightened Government must feel its strength in enlightened public opinion before it can venture to eradicate evils which are flagrantly outrageous. The Viceroy's advice, therefore, remains practically unassailable.

We have spoken with unqualified commendation of Lord Elgin's speech so far as it has touched on one of the chief functions of the medical profession. We wish we could stop here. But duty compels us just to speak one word about a subject which we look upon as of vital importance to the profession. His Excellency urged reformers to cultivate the virtue of tolerance. The cultivation of this virtue is no less imperative upon those who, in the fancied possession of all truth, resist all reform, and are intolerant of any innovation upon their preconceived opinions and ideas. We had expected from His Excellency some expression of opinion regarding the intolerance and bigotry which the majority of the profession to the present day are guilty of in respect of certain members of their body who have happened to differ from them in matters of theory and practice.

We cannot believe that a statesman of Lord Elgin's general culture and information could be ignorant of the New School of medicine. The promulgation of Homœpathy as a system of medicine based upon a natural law of healing superior to all other laws, and therefore constituting the greatest reform of the Healing Art, is over eighty years old. The reform sprung up in the midst of the profession. The reformer, on the admission of his contemporaries, some of whom were his bitterest enemies, was one of the greatest medical philosophers of the century, remarkable alike for his vast general erudition and encyclopædic knowledge of all the branches of medical science. The system, notwithstanding the most violent opposition of the majority of the profession, has been making solid progress, daily gaining adherents not only from amongst members of the profession of admitted reputation for learning and professional ability, but from amongst the most intelligent and educated laymen. All this could only arise from the practical success of the system, which is all that non-professional men care for, however much it may be derided and explained away by interested professional men. This practical success carries more weight with those who owe to it their recovery from diseases pronounced incurable by old school practitioners, than all the theoretical arguments that are advanced against the system. It is this practical success which has gained for it the support of all respectable lay journals throughout the world. We have not come across a single such journal which has not condemned in the strongest language the opposition to the system still being carried on by men who are never tired of boasting of their scientific culture.

Admitting then, as we have seen Lord Elgin has done, that it is a legitimate duty of a civilised Government to look after the health of those under its jurisdiction, admitting, as we have seen, it is impossible not to do it, that the homœopathic system of medicine not only professes to be based upon strictly scientific methods, but by its practical success is daily more and more gaining the confidence of the public, that is, gradually encroaching upon the domain of the old school which notwithstanding still enjoys the exclusive patronage of our Government, admitting these two facts, the inference becomes irresistible that the recognition or otherwise of such a system cannot be a matter of indifference to that Government. Not to speak of its immense therapeutic superiority which leads to considerable indirect financial economy, the very great direct financial economy which would follow the adoption of the system ought to commend it to any Government. It was, therefore, a great disappointment to us that Lord Elgin should not have availed himself of the splendid opportunity that was presented by the first Indian Medical Congress to allude to this subject of such grave inportance to the people and the Government.

Considering the sensitiveness of men of medicine, and the temper and attitude of the dominant school to the new school, the subject, we admit, would have been a most delicate one to deal with. But from the way in which his Lordship dealt with sanitary enthusiasts, we are persuaded that if any one was able to deal with the subject we speak of it was His Excellency. There is one point in connection with the medical profession which might have furnished a justification for a passing allusion to the anomaly presented by it in its division into two schools, one of which is so dominated by the other as to be in a hopeless minority in the matter of urging its claims to public and government patronage, a fact which stands in the way of its further advancing medicine itself, and of doing that amount of good to humanity which it could otherwise do. The point is the disagreement among doctors, which has passed into a proverb, and which is particularly noticeable in the old school. Lord Elgin might have taken advantage of this fact to point out to members of this school not only the injustice but the absurdity of their excluding from fellowship some of their brethren simply for difference of opinion, when among themselves they agree only to differ. A strong-minded ruler bent upon removing this injustice and anomaly would, if we are not mistaken, not have omitted to perform this obvious duty.---*The Calcutta Journal of Medicine.*

GRANNY GORTON'S BIRTHDAY.

SATURDAY, January 21st, was a great day in Central Village, in the State of Connecticut, in America. On that day Mrs. Jonathan Gorton was 100 years old and formally received her friends, of whom hundreds were present. She wore her best black silk gown, with a rose in the bodice. The venerable lady was seated in a comfortable armchair on a platform in the best room of her house Then the train of callers filed through, each and all shaking hands with her. "Granny Gorton," as she is called, is a trim little body and very nimble on her feet. There was never anything ailed her, she says, and, except that her eyesight isn't quite so good as it used to be, she is as active as any woman of 50.

Why has Granny Gorton lived so long ? Why is she so active now ? She lets out the secret herself when she says, "There was never anything ailed me." That's it, and all of it.

People who live 100 years are not so very rare. The deaths of 45 such were reported last year in England—22 men and 23 women. Yet, compared to the multitudes who die, these are nothing—nothing. Can we not keep things from ailing us, and so live long as Mrs. Gorton ? Yes, if we will take the trouble to do it ! Men and women 100 years old, still vigorous and clear headed, should be a sight so common as not to be remarked a wi[illegible]ll be yet in the future. Why not so *now* ? "Ask yourself the [illegible]stion," as the boatmen say down on Deal beach.

Here's how it is : A woman's tale. She says she fell ill when a girl of about 15. She lost her appetite, had pains in the sides and chest, frequent headaches, and was often obliged to lie down on the couch and rest. All this didn't promise long life, did it ? No ; it was a bad start.

Well, she got worse instead of better She was often sick, vomited her food, and spitting of a sour fluid. For five years she went on this way. This brings us to October, 1881. She was then in service as parlour-maid at Leamington Hastings, Warwickshire. Here she suffered from constant sickness, retching, and heartburn. The chest pains were so bad as to bend her two double. No position that she could take relived her. Her stomach was so tender and sore that everything she ate pained and distressed her. For months and months she only took liquid food—milk and beaten eggs, and so on.

She got weaker and weaker every day, so she says. Of course ; how else could it be ? A doctor at Rugby told her she had "ulceration of the chest," which she didn't at all. What is "ulceration of the chest?"

He gave her medicines and advice, but she grew no better on that account. This young lady was now about 20 years old, with a poor outlook for ever being much older. She didn't expect it, nor did her friends. Then another doctor, being consulted, said "ulceration of the chest," like his medical brother at Rugby. Both wrong.

"After Six months' medical treament" she says, "I gave up my situation and returned to my home at Buxton Lamas, Norfolk. This was in June, 1882. Then I was taken so bad I had to take to my bed. My mother thought I was in a decline."

Now, the word "decline" means consumption, as we all know ; a disease common in England and incurable everywhere. Thousands of bright girls and young men "decline" into their graves every years in this populous island. Sad enough it is to see.

Well, at this point her good and wise mother interfered in her daughter's case. She gave the doctors the go-by and sent to Norwich for some bottles of Mother Seigel's Curative Syrup. In two weeks the young patient began to feel better, and in three months she got a new situation and went to work.

"Since then, fifteen years ago," she says, "I have kept in better health than ever before in my life, thanks to Seigel's Syrup. Yours truly, (Signed). (Mrs.) SARAH ELEANOR BAKER, 8, King's Street, Church Road Tottenham, near London, September 30th, 1892"

A dozen words more and we're done. Mrs. Baker's ailment was indigestion and dyspepsia, nothing else, and quite enough. The "ulceration" was inflammation of the inner coating of the stomach, a symptom of the disease. We wish her a long and happy life, and merely add that if all her sex could avoid or cure this one trouble most of them might live to be as old as Granny Gorton.

Ready for the Press

AN INDIAN JOURNALIST:

Life, Letters and Correspondence

OF

Dr. SAMBHU C. MOOKERJEE,

late Editor of "Reis and Rayyet,"

BY

F H. SKRINE, C.S.

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VOL. XIV. CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, MAY 11, 1895. WHOLE NO. 674.

CONTEMPORARY POETRY.

THE MORNING VISIT.

BY O. W. HOLMES.

A SICK man's chamber, though it often boast
The grateful presence of a literal toast,
Can hardly claim amidst its various wealth
The right, unchallenged, to propose a health ;
Yet though its tenant is denied the feast,
Friendship must launch his sentiment at least,
As prisoned damsels, locked from lovers' lips,
Toss them a kiss from off their fingers' tips.

The Morning Visit—not till sickness falls
In the charmed circle of your own safe walls ;
Till fever's throb, and pain's relentless rack,
Stretch you, all helpless, on your aching back ;
Not till you play the patient in your turn,
The morning visit's mystery shall you learn.

'T is a small matter in your neighbour's case,
To charge your fee for showing him your face ;
You skip upstairs, inquire, inspect and touch,
Prescribe, take leave, and off to twenty such.
But when, at length, by fate's transferred decree,
The visitor becomes the visitee,
Ohen, indeed, it pulls another string,
Your ox is gored, and that's a different thing !
Your friend is sick ; phlegmatic as a Turk,
You write your recipe and let it work ;
Not yours to stand the shiver and the frown,
And sometimes worse, with which your draught goes down ;
Calm as a clock your knowing hand directs,
Rhei, Jalapæ, ana grana sex,
Or traces on some tender missive's back
Scrupulos duos pulveris Ipecac ;
And leaves your patient to his qualms and gripes,
Cool as a sportsman banging at his snipes.

But change the time, the person, and the place,
And be yourself the "interesting case,"
You'll gain some knowledge which it's well to learn ;
In future practice it may serve your turn.
Leeches, for instance, pleasing creatures quite,
Try them, and, bless you, don't you find they bite ?
You raise a blister for the smallest cause,
But be yourself the great sublime it draws,
And trust my statement, you will not deny,
The worse of draughtsmen is your Spanish Fly !
It's mighty easy, ordering when you please,
Infusia Sennæ, capiat uncias tres ;
It's mighty different when you quackle down
Your own three ounces of the liquid brown.

Pilula, pulvis—pleasant words enough,
When other jaws receive the shocking stuff ;
But oh, what flattery can disguise the groan
That meets the gulp which sends it through your own !
Be gentle, then, though Art's unsparing rules
Give you the handling of her sharpest tools ;
Use them not rashly—sickness is enough—
Be always "ready," but be never "rough."

Of all the ills that suffering man endures,
The largest fraction liberal Nature cures ;
Of those remaining, 't is the smallest part
Yields to the efforts of judicious Art ;
But simple *kindness* kneeling by the bed,
To shift the pillow for the sick man's head,
Give the fresh draught to cool the lips that burn,
Fan the hot brow, the weary frame to turn ;
Kindness—untutored by our grave M. D.'s,
But nature's graduate, whom she schools to please,
Wins back more sufferers with her voice and smile,
Than all the trumpery in the druggist's pile.

Once more, be *quiet*—coming up the stair,
Don't be a plantigrade, a human bear,
But stealing softly on the silent toe,
Reach the sick chamber ere you 're heard below.
Whatever changes there may greet your eyes,
Let not your looks proclaim the least surprise ;
It's not your business by your face to show
All that your patient does not wish to know ;
Nay, use your optics with considerate care,
And don't abuse your privilege to stare.
But if your eyes may probe him overmuch,
Beware still further how you rudely touch ;
Don't clutch his corpus in your icy fist,
But warm your fingers ere you take the wrist,
If the poor victim needs must be percussed,
Don't make an anvil of his aching bust ;
(Doctors exist, within a hundred miles,
Who thump a thorax as they'd hammer piles.)
If you must listen to his doubtful chest,
Catch the essentials and ignore the rest—
Spare him ; the sufferer wants of you and art
A track to steer by, not a finished chart ;
So of your questions—don't in mercy try
To pump your patient absolutely dry ;
He's not a mollusc squirming in a dish—
You're not Agassiz, and he's not a fish.

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And last, not least, in each perplexing case,
Learn the sweet magic of a *cheerful face;*
Not always smiling, but at least serene,
When grief and anguish cloud the anxious scene.
Each look, each movement, every word and tone,
Should tell your patient you are all his own;
Not the mere artist, purchased to attend,
But the warm, ready, self forgetting friend,
Whose genial visit in itself combines
The best of cordials, tonics, anodynes.

Such is the *Visit*, that from day to day
Sheds o'er my chamber its benignant ray.
I give *his* health, who never cared to claim
Her babbling homage from the tongue of Fame!
Unmoved by praise, he stands by all confest,
The truest, noblest, wisest, kindest, best!

WEEKLYANA.

THE Birthday of Her Majesty the Queen, Empress of India, will be kept in India on Saturday, the 25th May. On that day, the Viceroy will hold a Levée at Viceregal Lodge, Simla, at 9-45 P M.

***

THE Government of India, in the Department of Revenue and Agriculture, under the head of Meteorology, corrects

"Sree Rajah G. N. Gajapati Rao Guru, C.S.I."

into

"Sree Rajah G. N. Gajapati Rao Guru, C. I. E."

The correction needs correction. Is it "Guru?" Indian names are yet a stumbling block to Government. With all its learning and attempts to master the intricacies of matters Indian, it blunders as egregiously as when it first began.

***

ALL salt imported into the port of Calcutta and issued with the sanction of the Government of Bengal to manufacturers of glazed stoneware, is no longer to be subject to any of the duties of customs to which it is liable under the Indian Tariff Act, VIII of 1894.

***

THE Governor-General in Council has ruled that a duty at the rate of six annas a maund of 82 2/7lbs. avoirdupois shall be levied on salted fish, dry and wet, imported into any Customs port from any place beyond the limits of British India.

***

ON a reference, the Government of India, agreeing with the Government of Madras, has decided that a refund should be made of the difference between the specific and *ad valorem* duty on arms purchased by European British subjects residing in Native States from an importer or seller also residing in a Native State

***

CONCURRING with the Government of Bombay, the Governor-General in Council has directed that no refund of import duty can be granted on lost goods, on which duty has been paid, when they have passed out of Customs custody. Two hundred cases of kerosine oil were lost in Bombay Harbour while in transit from the importing vessel to the wharf after the oil had been entered for home consumption and duty paid on it. A claim for refund of the customs duty having been made, the Government of India replied that "To establish a claim for exemption from duty on lost goods it must be shewn that the goods when lost had not actually been entered for warehousing or for home consumption, or that they were lost after entry for home consumption while they were in the custody of the Customs officials. When the goods have been lost before entry for home consumption or after it has been completed, and while the goods are in the custody of the importer or his agents, such loss must be accepted by the importer as a trade risk against which the Government cannot undertake to insure him."

***

THE *Indian Daily News* says —

"Dr. Rash Behary Ghose, whose candidature for the Burdwan Division, for the Bengal Council, is announced, has more than one claim to support. He has already served with credit on both the Bengal and the Supreme Council; he is a leader of his profession, and he possesses to a very considerable degree the confidence of both communities. With Mr. Hennessy from Bhagulpore, Raja Surji Kant Acharjya of Mymensingh from Dacca, and Dr. Rash Behary Ghose from Burdwan, we should have the nucleus of an excellent representative Council."

Again :—

"In the case of the Burdwan Division, the most influential candidate is Dr. Rash Behary Ghose, who has already served with credit on both the Bengal and Supreme Council, and, with one noticeable exception, has secured the support of the native press. The exception in question is an interesting one, for it is hinted that it has been inspired by the jealousy of a prominent Bengalee who is a candidate for another seat. This gentleman, it is declared, feels certain himself of election, and hopes hereafter to represent the elected members on the Supreme Council, but fears the advent of so influential a competitor as Dr. Rash Behary Ghose would be (1 but) in this connection."

There is an unholy double alliance to keep out the best man who would not stoop to arts and manœuvres.

***

HERE is how *Truth* describes the Frontier policy of the Indian Government :—

Apropos of the Chitral war, I have received a communication, too long for publication *in extenso* but containing a highly practical suggestion. The idea is this. Every body knows the policy of "trailing the coat," which is pursued with such success by British statesmanship on the Indian and other frontiers. It consists in sending over the frontier a small force, large enough to alarm the natives, but not large enough to prevent them attacking it. They attack. A "British reverse" ensues. Thereupon the national honour requires us to at once advance in force, and avenge the insult by conquering the "aggressors" and annexing their territory. This policy is not only hard on the natives, it is also very hard on the British force which serves the purpose of a decoy. Its position is compared by the correspondent referred to above to that of the lamb tied to a stake by the huntsman who desires to shoot a tiger or other beast of prey, and doomed to be mangled while the sportsman pots his game from a neighbouring tree."

There is much truth in these observations. And yet this policy of "trailing the coat" is not likely to be checked until those who have the direction of affairs are themselves made to play the part of the decoy.

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THE High Court down south is not prepared to favour the crusade of the Purists against dancing girls. We read :—

"A dancing girl recently made a second appeal to the Madras High Court in a case in which, as the adopted daughter of a deceased dancing woman, she claimed her mother's privileges, but the temple authorities, bearing in mind that a dancing girl's profession is, if not *per se* at least *in actu*, an immoral one, questioned the legality in this particular case of tying the initiative ornament called the *bottu* round the girl's neck, seeing that the girl was a minor. The district Moonsiff of Madura decided that the ceremony was purely a religious one; the District Court on appeal reversed the District Moonsiff's decision; and the case was then brought into the High Court. After nearly a fortnight to think over the case, their lordships have been able to pass a conditional judgment, and have felt themselves necessitated to send the case back to the Lower Court. Their lordships held that there was nothing immoral in the tying of the *bottu* itself, in that it consisted merely in tying a small piece of gold round the neck of the woman, but that, on the other hand, it was intimately connected with the right to discharge the *mirasi* office of temple dancing, to which emoluments were attached, and that, sitting as judges, they would find it difficult to reverse the current of decisions on the ground of a change in the sentiment of the community generally with regard to the institution of dancing girls. They would therefore be inclined to hold that the plaintiff was entitled to succeed in her suit if her adoption which, as a basis of a right to have the *bottu* tied, was in itself legally valid. In this case, however, it was admitted that the adoption of the girl as a daughter by a dancing woman was made while the plaintiff was under 16 years of age The adoptor and the person giving in adoption would apparently therefore be guilty of an offence under sec. 372 of the Indian Penal Code, if the object of the adoption was to make the girl lead an immoral life while a minor. Their lordships could not agree that an act which was criminal in itself could be a basis of any civil right, although the plaintiff herself was no party to the claim. If, therefore, it were clear that the intention was to make the plaintiff lead an immoral life even while a minor, they would have no hesitation in declaring the adoption invalid, but although the plaintiff's own conduct would seem to show that such was the object, there was no clear finding on the point, and they would therefore call upon the Lower Court definitely to find whether the intention of the plaintiff's adoptive mother in making the adoption was that the plaintiff should lead an immoral life even while a minor."

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THERE was a serious disturbance at the Vizianagram Railway Station, due to a dispute between the sepoys of the 11th Madras Infantry on the one side and the Railway people and the Police on the other. Two sepoys were killed. Order was promptly restored, but not before grave alarm had been caused in consequence of the entire Regiment fraternising with their roughly handled comrades.

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WE hear that Rs. 6,000 are claimed as damages by the Headmaster of the Gya Institution from Mr. G. A. Stack, Officiating Inspector of Schools, Behar Circle, for certain unfavourable remarks made by the

latter regarding a Collection Register of the Institution. The suit is pending in the Court of the Subordinate Judge of Gya. Will the Headmaster be able to prove his case? As Inspector, the defendant had a right to record his impressions of the Headmaster's conduct in so far as that conduct was connected with the keeping up of the register. Unless, therefore, the plaintiff can prove that there was malice in the report, he cannot expect to succeed.

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THE following extract from the *Deccan Budget* will be read with interest. Within the last few years the consumption of kerosine oil in India has gone up with such rapid strides, that both America and Russia drain India of a considerable sum by their supplies of what must now be said to be one of the necessaries of Indian life:—

"The accounts which our daily contemporaries have recently published regarding the new American oil steamer, presently loading at Bombay for Europe, naturally recall to mind the remarkable crisis through which the petroleum trade of India is just now passing. Consumers of the better descriptions of kerosine oil will doubtless have noticed the frantic fluctuations which have attended the market rates of mineral oil for the past eighteen months. To note an instance in point, the freaks connected with the exportation from the United States of the two brands known as 'Snowflake' and 'White Rose,' both of 150 degrees of burning power, may be mentioned For a time the two oils appeared to run on parallel lines of competition, the older brand commanding a larger market and price than its sturdy young competitor, which was then becoming a fast favourite, and which, it is almost needless to say, has since attained one of the highest commercial positions which refined petroleum can probably ever hope to reach. A sudden lull in the storm of competition next occurred, and for a season demoralised the market. Some of the higher qualities were temporarily withdrawn, and suddenly re-appeared enburthened with fabulously high prices, which, fortunately for the consumer, resulted in their rejection in favour of the cheaper brands till rates were lowered once again. It is not difficult to trace the true cause of these fluctuations. India is supplied with kerosine by the United States and Russia, and as a matter of course becomes the centre of contest between the two great rival producers. The monopoly which the trans-Atlantic product has enjoyed for years has been substantially assailed by Russia, which invested in tank steamers and soon increased their exports to India, from a million and a-half gallons in 1889 90, compared with twenty-four millions of American oil in the same year, to twenty million gallons three years after, when Russia had in that brief period outpaced her neighbour, whose exports had seriously declined. The competition aroused producers in the United States, and last year they made a determined effort to regain lost ground and beat their younger rival out of the Indian market. They increased their consignments by no less than ninety per cent. and shipped nearly forty million gallons of oil to this country Batoum was unequal to the competition, and, as a consequence, Russian exportation fell from twenty to ten millions in twelve months. The present position, therefore, is in favour of the American, and approved commodities which rule the Indian market at the lowest competitive rates which have been known for some years. It now remains to be seen if Russian producers will prove enterprising enough to enter upon a war of rates with America. If they do, we may soon expect to find a rush on the superior oils by the poorest of India's consumers. From this point of view it is rather desirable that this internecine competition involved in the process of the rivals' attempt to choke out one another should continue, rather than that they should bury the hatchet of competition and fix upon a permanent rate for their oils."

There is now a boom for the oil, and there will always remain the possibility of a "boom" among the nations supplying it. The greater danger is that the cheapness may vanish and the dangers of the oil itself will continue.

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WE take the following from a contemporary:—

"The English translation of the authorised account of the Eastern Travels of the young Czar is in an advanced state, and ought shortly to be published. The work was written by a Russian official, and one of the travelling companions of the Emperor or as he then was, the Czarewitch. Some of the author's reflections on what he saw or thought he saw when in India will, if the translator has reproduced them textually, be quite a new departure for Anglo-Indians in official literature."

We hope the Czar has said nothing in depreciation of the Indian Civil Service. The ascription of even the commonest faults of humanity to those belonging to that service is sure to be resented by men like Sir James Westland and Sir Antony MacDonnell.

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WE never thought that the lowly Indian vegetable product, known as brinjal, would have the favour or honour of careful cultivation on English soil.

"Those who are inclined to cavil at the somewhat frequent appearance of the humble brinjal at dinner during the present hot-weather dearth of *bhaji* vegetables, should learn that its cultivation is now being urged in England on the ground of its remedial virtues in affections of the liver. In France and in America it is well-known in culinary circles under other names, but in England the plant has hitherto been cultivated chiefly for ornamental purposes. Dr. Paterson, in the *Gardner's Chronicle*, is responsible for its further recommendation, on the ground of its curative properties. Large Anglo-Indian areas at home might doubtlessly be found upon which experiment would be valuable and conclusive."

Hindu physicians, from the remotest times, have been aware of the benefits of brinjal on weakened constitutions. Roasted brinjals constitute very light food and are prescribed for patients recovering from violent fevers Of course, it is only for a day or two that such diet is given. Sometimes fried paddy is prescribed to be taken with roasted brinjals. Besides being light, such regimen keeps the bowels open—without causing violent motions.

NOTES & LEADERETTES,

OUR OWN NEWS,

&

THE WEEK'S TELEGRAMS IN BRIEF, WITH OCCASIONAL COMMENTS.

THE treaty of peace with Japan has been ratified by the Emperor of China. Ratifications were exchanged at Chefoo on May 8. The European intervention in which England took no part has prevailed. Japan has abandoned her demand for the cession of the Liaotong Peninsula, including Port Arthur. It is reported that Japan will receive an extra war indemnity of ten million sterling for abandoning the Peninsula. The *Temps* believes that the basis of the arrangement with Japan for the payment of the indemnity will be the allocation of the Chinese Imperial Customs revenue under the guarantee and control of the European Powers. Squadrons of the European Powers are assembling at Chefoo. Eight Russian warships are already present there and have cleared for action. It is announced at St. Petersburg that the Russian, French and German Squadrons in the Pacific will not be reduced until all the questions arising from the war is finally settled by China and Japan.

SERIOUS trouble is brewing in Formosa. The Black Flags are growing turbulent. British and German marines have already landed at Ankau to protect the foreigners. British launches are patrolling Takau harbour. Five thousand Chinese troops are leaving Canton for Formosa for suppressing the probable opposition of the Black Flags to the Japanese occupation of the Island It is believed at Hongkong, that the Chinese troops are likely to join the Black Flags immediately on reaching their destination. Some of the French newspapers are dissatisfied with the settlement of the Japanese difficulty. They declare that France cannot permit Japanese sovereignty over the Islands of Formosa and the Pescadores. France, the papers point out, would be a dupe to Russia unless the agreement of the three Powers also applies to the settlement of the Egyptian question, thus Russia repaying on the banks of the Nile the services which France has rendered to her on the Gulf of Pechili. It is stated that France is negotiating with Japan with a view to limiting the latter's warships and garrisons in Formosa and the Pescadores.

COUNT Kalnoky had resigned and has withdrawn his resignation. The first step was due to the strictures passed by Baron Banffy, the Hungarian Premier, on the interference of Monsignor Aghardi, the Papal Nuncio, in connection with the Ecclesiastical Bill of the Hungarian Government. The remarks of Baron Banffy were in direct conflict with the views held by the Count. The Count's difference with the Baron was of a temporary nature and has been satisfactorily adjusted by the Emperor.

DEATHS are announced of Lady Kimberley, Lord Selbourne, and Sir Robert Peel.

THE impending resignation of Lord Rosebery is denied

THE London Common Council has voted £1,500 for entertaining Prince Nasirulla

MR. Oscar Wilde has been released on bail, himself of £2,500, and two sureties of £1,250 each.

THE Nicaraguan Government has accepted the modified British ultimatum, and pays, within a fortnight, under protest, the indemnity of £15,500 into the British treasury in London for the alleged personal injuries to British subjects. The other questions will be submitted to a Commission of Arbitration. The British squadron, excepting the cruiser Royal Arthur, has left Corinto

THE Duke of Orleans is out of danger.

IT is expected that the French will commence marching to Antananarivo by the beginning of June.

THE Secretary of State for India, in reply to a question in the House of Commons, said that when submitting to the Queen the names recommended for special marks of favour in connection with the defence and relief of Chitral, he would not overlook the distinguished claims of Dr. Robertson and Surgeon-Captain Whitchurch. To another question he replied that a Royal Commission would enquire into the question of Indian expenditure.

IN the House of Lords, on Monday 6, Lord Ripon, referring to the British annexation of the territories north-west of Zululand, declared that the step was taken to terminate the encroachment of the Transvaal, whose citizens were violating the Anglo-Transvaal treaties. The Secretary of State for the Colonies added that Her Majesty's Government nevertheless is desirous of maintaining the most cordial relations with the Republic.

TENDERS for two millions of India Bills payable in London in sterling for renewing Bills accruing on the 12th instant, amounted to 8,800,000. Tenders for £98-14-7 receive ninety per cent. of the amount applied for above in full.

THE Secretary of State for India has sanctioned the granting of a bonus of six months' pay to the Chitral defenders.

AT St. James's Hall, on May 7, was held a meeting to support the protest against the alleged treatment of the Christians by the Turkish authorities in Armenia. The Duke of Argyll presided. A resolution was adopted insisting on a speedy fulfilment of the sixty-first article of the Treaty of Berlin.

IN the House of Commons, on May 8, the Bill promoted by the Parnellites to repeal the Crimes Act of 1887, was read a second time, by a majority of fourteen. While Mr John Morley was speaking on the Bill, a voice from the Strangers' Gallery shouted, "Assassins! a blow has been struck at my honour in this House." The House seemed electrified at this sudden interruption. The Irish Members appeared to enjoy the incident calmly from their seats It was soon found that the indignant shout came from the mouth of the great Fenian patriot, O'Donovan Rossa, who had become uncontrollable during the delivery of Mr. Morley's speech on the working of the Coercion Act in Ireland O'Donovan Rossa was immediately expelled from the precincts of the House.

LORD Rosebery, while addressing a meeting at the National Liberal Club on Wednesday evening, stopped and nearly broke down through weakness. After a short interval he resumed his speech amidst cheers He made no allusion to Great Britain's foreign policy

SIR Edward Grey announced in the House of Commons that the French Government had stated that Captain Toutée's expedition on the Royal Niger Company's territory was of a private nature. In reply to another question, he said that Her Majesty's Government was unable to complete the arrangement with the Imperial British East Africa Company for taking over its territories by the Zanzibar protectorate until Parliament sanctioned the payment of the money agreed upon.

THE agitation regarding the British occupation of Egypt continues. The French press is demanding the British evacuation of Egypt, its autonomy and the neutralisation of the Suez Canal by a European agreement.

IT is said that the number of unmarried women in England and Wales exceeds the number of unmarried men by 200,000. "Men," probably, includes boys, and "women" includes girls. If the figure is correct, it is evident that a very large number of women in England and Wales cannot hope to have husbands. There can be no doubt that in India also, the number of men has always been very much less than that of women. The Mahomedans are addicted to polygamy. Hindus also, though not so generally, take to plurality of wives. If the ratio in India between the two sexes be so disproportionate, notwithstanding the wide prevalence of polygamy, the re-marriage of widows in this country cannot, from an economical point of view, be regarded as an unmixed good. A widow re-married means a maiden deprived of a husband. We suspect this has been the normal condition of India from very ancient times. The Rishis, therefore, were obliged to discourage the re-marrige of widows and sanction polygamy. As regards women also, perpetual virginity, or total husbandlessness, cannot be unquestionably better than the status of a co-wife. Both polygamy and widow-remarriage are treated with so much gush that the most obvious considerations based upon facts and figures cannot be referred to without laying oneself open to the charge of being an obstructive fossil.

WE read :—

"A curious incident has occurred in the history of American athletics Harvard University, by putting a stop to intercollegiate contests, has practically abolished the game of football. From the accounts given by the American papers, the Faculty appear to have been confronted with a choice between the cause of the game and the cause of learning, and to have decided that the true end of a University was rather intellectual than physical culture. The excitable American temperament must have contributed largely to this result. It is impossible to imagine the authorities of any English University taking such action with regard to any long-cherished and popular national game. The fact has been for some time apparent that mere physical achievement was becoming prized by young America out of all proportion to its significance, however, and the most extraordinary scenes and circumstances have been reported in connection with notable contests. It is nevertheless a pity that a measure so directly aimed against manly sport as that taken by Harvard should have been found necessary."

It is precisely on such grounds that we are opposed to the diverse fads of the hour in connection with what is called the higher training of Indian students. Boating and foot-ball and drills under Police Sergeants may be good things—even very good things—but the danger is that Indian students are very likely to take to these more seriously than to the cause of learning. The introduction of music in one or two schools of Bengal, spoiled, we are told, a few boys. Finding themselves admired for their voices, they showed more zeal in cultivating the vocal art than literature and science. Then, again, hard physical exercises for malaria-stricken Bengali boys living upon fish-soup and old rice, is scarcely beneficial. The only exercise for which the generality of Bengali boys are fit is, perhaps, walking, with occasional riding.

LAST week, two *shrads* were performed in two respectable houses in the native town. One was of Baboo Girindra Chunder Ghose of Pathuriaghatta and the other of the wife of Rai Bahadoor Rajendra Nath Mitter of Jhamapookur. Baboo Girindra was a jolly old soul and was, perhaps, the last of the old class who, while posing as strict Hindus, affected Mahomedan manners in dress—specially in the cover for the head. He was always surrounded by Pandits whom he patronized, who specially feel his loss. Although an orthodox Hindu, he had developed a toleration for the heterodox. Shortly before his death, he helped materially in re-admitting into caste the famous U. K. Dutt. But as the fates would have it, those who took the upper hand in the deceased's *shrad* ignored Baboo Dutt altogether.

The loss of his wife, who was a good housewife, at his age and in his retirement, must be a terrible blow to Baboo Rajendra Nath Mitter But death was a relief to her, for she had been suffering long and wanted rest. That can hardly be a consolation to the surviving, specially to the sorrowing husband who was devoted to her and who must now draw his consolation from past memories. If the one *sradh* was notable for exclusion, the other was marked by catholicity. Baboo Khagender Nath, the eldest son of Baboo Rajendranath, had asked all his neighbours, relatives and friends, including his new acquaintances at Diamond Harbour, of which he is the Subdivisional Officer.

We have received two letters regarding the late Subdivisional Officer of Ranaghat. We shall take them up by and bye.

It is notified that, under Rule II *(B)* of the Regulations which have been passed by the Governor-General in Council with the sanction of the Secretary of State, under section 1 (4) of the Indian Councils Act, 1892, for Bengal, the Lieutenant-Governor is pleased to prescribe that a recommendation for a nomination to one seat in the Council of the Lieutenant-Governor for making Laws and Regulations shall be made to the Lieutenant-Governor, respectively,

1. by the Group of District Boards of Dacca, Mymensingh, Faridpur, and Backergunge in the Dacca Division;

2. by the District Boards of Monghyr, Bhagalpur, Purnea and Malda in the Bhagalpur Division;

3. by the sixteen Municipalities in the Burdwan Division, namely, Burdwan, Kalna, Katwa, Raniganj in the Burdwan District; Suri in the Birbhum District; Bankura and Vishnupur in the Bankura District; Midnapore and Ghatal in the Midnapore District; Hooghly and Chinsura, Serampore, Uttarpara, Baidyabati, and Bhadreswar in the Hooghly District; and Howrah and Bally in the Howrah District.

The Commissioners of Divisions will now communicate with the Chairmen of Municipalities and District Boards which must meet specially to elect one of their members to represent themselves at the meeting of delegates for the election of their representatives. Such election will have to be made within two months from the date of communication by the Divisional Commissioner. Some of the electoral bodies have already anticipated the invitation of Government and elected their delegates. To be strictly within the rules, they must, we should think, meet again and re-elect their delegates. The election at the meeting of delegates will be by ballot and the person selected must obtain a majority of votes. If on the first ballot an absolute majority is not obtained, the candidate who obtains the least number of votes goes out and another ballot shall be held for the remaining candidates, and so on until an absolute majority is obtained.

District Boards will have one vote each. Municipalities will have votes according to their income. Thus: Howrah will have 8; Burdwan and Midnapore 4 each; Hooghly-Chinsura and Serampore 3 each; Raniganj, Uttarpara, Baidyabati, and Bally 2 each; and each of the remaining seven one vote.

The three elections are meant to fill the vacancies to be caused, on the 5th June, by the retirement, on the expiration of the usual term, of Mr. L. M. Ghose, Maharaja Sir Luchmessur Sing of Durbhanga, and Khan Bahadur Serajul Islam. The Calcutta Corporation will also be called upon to elect a member. The Calcutta University also is to make an election owing to the resignation of Mr. W. C. Bonerjee. The term of Maharaja Jagadindra Nath Roy of Natore will not determine till the 22nd January next year. The other elected member is Mr. C. E. Symth returned by the Bengal Chamber of Commerce on the 22nd of March last.

The combatants in the Municipal election are Baboos Surendra Nath Banerjee and Kalinath Mitter. Babu Surendra Nath is already an Honourable Member and Babu Kalinath had had a seat in the same Council. Both are confident of being returned. We think it would be graceful for the Commissioners, if they could make up their minds to be represented by a really worthy man belonging to no particular party, to return their Vice-Chairman. The Municipal Act is no bar to such election and Babou Gopal Lal Mitter is otherwise fit to be a member of Council. If he had been Government Pleader at Hooghly, nobody would have doubted his eligibility. But Municipal Commissioners seem jealous of their superior officers and have for some time discarded them from the posts open to them, for promoting their own selfish ends.

As regards the Calcutta University, only two Fellows have entered the lists. Both of them had contested the election on the last occasion. One of them had the good sense to retire but the other stuck to the last and was defeated. It is strange that no better candidate has been put forward. The University is really on its trial. The result will show whether it is deserving of the privilege conferred on it. It is now too late to think of a third Fellow. The choice must lie between the two who have come forward. One of them has already been in the Council and the other has long aspired to be in it.

In the Burdwan Division, two gentlemen connected with two Municipalities are candidates for election. One much greater than they has been brought in and he ought to succeed. An unholy attempt is being made to keep out Dr. Rashbehary Ghose. He is no resident in the Burdwan Division, say they. He is, for purposes of the election, and the highest legal opinion is in his favour. Sir Griffith Evans has pronounced him not disqualified. The miserable shift that when elected, Dr. Ghose will not continue in the Lower Chamber if returned from it to the Upper, has been answered. He will not leave his electors to make another election if he be honoured with a seat in the higher Council. Those who opposed his candidature from improper motives, have, we believe, by this time, been ashamed of their subterfuges.

In setting aside a conviction by the Sessions Judge of Bankura, the Chief Justice and Mr. Justice Beverley of the Calcutta High Court observed:—

"The object of the prosecution is not to serve the ends of any one side in particular, but to ascertain the truth and, as far as may be, place the tribunal which has to try the person who has been charged with having committed an offence, that is, in this case, the Judge and the Assessors, in a position to come to a right decision, and where persons are vouched for as having been present at the time the crime is said to have been committed, the Judge and the Assessors whose duty it is to form an opinion as to the guilt or innocence of the accused, should in common fairness be allowed to hear what such person has to say and themselves form an opinion whether or not they are telling the truth."

Prosecutions in India are managed by an active Police, in consultation, sometimes, with Government Pleaders. The Police imagine that their chief duty is to obtain a conviction. If in course of an enquiry anything turns up that is slightly favourable to an accused person, the Police immediately hush it up and take the greatest care that it may not come to the knowledge of the Magistrate or the Judge who will have to try the case. The reason is obvious. The Government measures the efficiency of the Police by the number of convictions they are able to obtain. The efficiency of even the Deputy Magistrates who have to try cases is measured by the same standard. The institution of the Jury itself, in this country, has its usefulness tested by the number of convictions resulting from its verdicts. No wonder that Police officers whose status in the service depends upon this unnatural test, should be so anxious in concealing all evidence tending to exculpate the accused. Even Government Pleaders, who are men of education, whose professional earnings do not depend upon the number of convictions they may secure, very frequently forget what is due to the Crown they represent. The Crown should never be made to appear vindictive. Nobody, however, can witness a Sessions trial in India outside the Presidency towns without remarking that the Crown in India, as represented by Provincial lawyers, is exceedingly vindictive. If a prisoner be unrepresented by Counsel, Crown lawyers in England always show a certain measure of forbearance that is approved of by every humane person. In India, however, forbearance to an unrepresented prisoner by a Government Pleader, is a very rare thing. All manner of fallacies are freely indulged in for confounding the understandings of the jurors, and it is a pity that the Judge himself, instead of assisting the comprehension of the jurors by exposing those fallacious arguments, contents himself with a statement, called the charge to the jury which is very often unintelligible. Sessions Judges are not always good lawyers. Hence the necessity of such observations by the Chief Justice. Unfortunately for the country, such observations cannot be expected to bear fruit as long as our Secretariats continue to be ruled by officials having little acquaintance with the principles of general jurisprudence, civil and criminal.

The *Madras Times* says:—

"The Rajah of Bhinga is the latest royal recluse. Like the younger Buddha, he has laid aside his royal robes, and has decided to retire from active life, at least for a time, and to adopt the habits and customs of an orthodox Hindu recluse. To those who have followed, with sympathy or otherwise, the public life, and read the open letters of the, at any rate, highly enlightened Rajah, the news of his retirement will have come in the shape of a surprise. The recent bereavements in his family are said to have induced him to take the step—a motive in direct opposition to Gautama, who became a recluse on the birth of his child. The Rajah's case is a matter of much sympathy. We read that during the Rajah's retirement his estates are placed under the management of the Court of Wards to be administered in his behalf. It will be interesting to see what the Rajah's great renunciation will lead to, and whether he will re-appear to the world as a preacher or a king."

Notwithstanding the mention of the case being "a matter of much sympathy," the whole account is so flippant and unfeeling that no right-thinking man can read it without pain. The grief of a sire at the death of a son is sacred. It is the very last subject for pleasantry. Burke himself was thoroughly unmanned. It is no light thing to contemplate that they who ought to be our successors become our predecessors. For the short period that Burke survived his son, he was an altered man. The title of Lord Beaconsfield had been selected for him. He refused it with sorrow because there was no prospect of its descent on any issue of his body. Living in a society in which the spiritual element of man is always subordinated to his worldly concerns, Burke presented the picture of an active man retiring from the bustle of politics and society into the seclusion of private life. The Hindu is differently constituted The idea of unending eternity is vividly present to his mind That eternity, his scriptures tell him, is under his own control. For an individual of any of the three higher orders, the periods of pupilage and domesticity being over, that of retirement from the world comes and then of complete renunciation. Rajah Udoy Pratap has done nothing that can cause surprise to one of his own nationality and faith. His re-appearance in the active world is not possible, unless he swerves from his vow. The ill-concealed banter, of the writer in the *Madras Times*, about the probable re-appearance of the Rajah as a new religious teacher, proves his own utter want of spirituality. The alternative, *viz.*, the Rajah's re-appearance "as a king" is an instance of wit that is almost unintelligible in the connection. Nor can Bhinga be spoken of as a royal recluse. He was not a reigning chief. The statement is based on either ignorance or flattery. Bhinga is a very sensible person. Unlike his fellows among the landed aristocracy of India, he discouraged others from styling him His Highness, an honour that is reserved for only ruling chiefs. To give up the world and its attractions at his age is a most difficult feat. One of the scions of the great landed house of Gouga Govind Sing of Bengal showed himself equal to this act of courage. The incident, as ordinarily reported, was most romantic. Having fallen asleep one afternoon, he lay on his bed beyond the usual time. His coach was ready for his accustomed evening drive His valet awoke him, saying,—"Protector of the distressed, the day is wearing out!" He rose and repeated the expression about the wearing out of the day. He was heard to mutter,—"Yes, the day *is* wearing out! What am I doing?" Soon after, giving up everything he possessed, he took a brass pot and a piece of coarse blanket and began his new life of Renunciation. The next day he saw a man quenching his thirst in a stream with his joined hands. He gave his brass pot to the next mendicant he saw, and throwing away his blanket also, set out for places of pilgrimage. He supported himself by mendicancy, sleeping where evening overtook him, and never keeping anything for the morrow. He promptly left the place where his identity was suspected.

At the Bombay High Court, Justices Parsons and Ranade disposed of the appeal of Nawabzada Nasurulla Khan from the decision of Mr. Sanders-Slater, the Chief Presidency Magistrate, Bombay, convicting him of offering a bribe of Rs. 10,000 to Mr. Lely, Collector of Surat. Their lordships held that at the second interview which the appellant had with the Collector, the former made no offer of a bribe, but seemed sorry for what he had done at the former interview. The Judges holding that the charge had not been proved, reversed the sentence passed on the accused and ordered his discharge, and advised Mr Budroodin Tyebjee, his Counsel, to apply to the Mamlutdar of Bulsar for the return of the Rs. 10,000 The decision was received with applause in Court.

THE Secretary of State for India has warned the Government of India against hasty removal of officers from service on abolition of appointments due to reduction of establishment. It seems that notices are served on officers in anticipation of orders abolishing their places. This, Mr. Fowler points out, is not only unjust to officers, but may involve inconvenient claims for compensation, specially if the proposed reduction is not given effect to from any cause. The order promulgated is that no Government servant should be discharged until the reduction of establishment, entailing the abolition of his post, has been finally determined on and been actually ordered by Government. The fact that prospective changes are under consideration, and likely to be adopted, which will involve a reduction of establishment, should not be used to justify the removal of an officer from his appointment.

THE recent case of contempt in the Police Court proved the helplessness of Magistrates in engaging Crown lawyers. We quote below the Government order on the subject.

"No. 1652, dated Fort William, the 31st December 1874.
From—Arthur Howell, Esq., Offg. Secretary to the Govt. of India, Home Dept. (Judicial,)
To—The Secretary to the Government of Bengal.

In reply to your letter No. 4406, dated the 17th ultimo, I am to say that the Government of India concur in the opinion of His Honour the Lieutenant Governor that as regards officers under the Bengal Government, in every case involving a criminal prosecution the interference of the Government Solicitor and Prosecutor should not be exercised without the previous sanction of the Bengal Government or of the Government of India, with the exception of applications from the Commissioner of Police in Calcutta in all Criminal cases, and from the Board of Revenue, Lower Provinces, in all cases connected with breaches of the Excise, Opium or Customs laws. The Government Solicitor, however, should not be released from the obligation to supervise all criminal cases committed to the High Court whether by Calcutta or by Mofussil Magistrates; and in the case of a prosecution being directed by the High Court, as is sometimes done, he should take it up without seeking orders from Government. I am to request that the officers to whom these orders apply may be made acquainted with them."

In Calcutta, it is only the Commissioner of Police and the Board of Revenue that can instruct the Government Solicitor. Unlike the Magistrates in the Mofussil, the Magistrates in Calcutta have not the power in that behalf. If they require any assistance they must specially obtain permission of the Bengal Government, unless the Police Commissioner is disposed to help them. District Magistrates as Chiefs of Police are not handicapped by any such restrictions. Calcutta Magistrates, being more Judges than Policemen, are denied the privilege. The Honorary Magistrates, again, must approach Government through the Chief Magistrate. This involves a delay which may be disastrous. Whenever the Chief Magistrate is called upon by the High Court to shew any cause, he is not free to engage a Counsel, unless he can pay him from his own pocket. In the contempt case, the Chief Magistrate had asked the Commissioner of Police to instruct the Government Prosecutor in the Police Court to prosecute Mr. Palit. Sir John Lambert was good enough to forward the request to Mr. Hume, who had been instructing Counsel for Mr. Palit, the accused. The Government Solicitor called for the papers and wished not to be instructed as the record did not disclose sufficient evidence for conviction. When the case went up to the High Court, Mr. Pearson, to avoid a second rebuff, would not again ask the Government Solicitor. This is a position which is not at all dignified If he require the advice of Crown lawyers he must apply to the Commissioner of Police. That officer's power is now acknowledged to be great. No appointment of a Magistrate, we believe, can be made without his consent. At any rate, he is given the power to recommend. Most of the Honorary Magistrates are of his making. Magistrates not of his way of thinking have no chance of continuing in the Police Court. It is time, we should think, to revise the order we have quoted. That order is more than 20 years old.

REIS & RAYYET.

Saturday, May 11, 1895.

BRITISH POLICY AT CHITRAL
A FROWARD POLICY.

Now that the professed object of the Chitral expedition has been attained, *viz.*, the relief of Dr. Robertson and his brave companions, speculation is rife both in India and England as to what the finale will be of the brilliant campaign. Opinion is certainly divided as to the wisdom of the policy in pursuit of which a representative of the British Power found himself suddenly invested in a miserable fort and obliged to stand a siege. However much might responsible statesmen strive, by a show of taking the public into their confidence, to explain that the action with regard to Chitral had been dictated by circumstances of individual application, the sensible portion of the public will scarcely accord its credit to that explanation. It will, on the other hand, be disposed to

look upon that action as the particular application of a general line of policy which the Government of India has adopted, since sometime, under sanction of the English Cabinet. So far as the history of the Chitral imbroglio is known, it deserves to be carefully studied as offering, perhaps, the best explanation of how the British Government finds itself at war with the semi-civilised Asiatic tribes that stand between India and Russian Asia.

Up to September 1892, Chitral was governed by a strong ruler named Aman-ul-Mulk He had a large family, including, it is said, seventeen sons. In most Asiatic countries, the succession to the throne is really not governed by the custom of primogeniture. That son who happens to be a successful intriguer and who is supported by a larger number of influential persons, or whose authority over the army is greater than that of others, ascends the throne, sometimes in the very life time of his father, whom he disposes of by immurement in a well-guarded castle for the rest of his days, but generally, of course, after his demise. The brothers he disposes of by immediate slaughter, or, if humanely inclined, by only putting out their eyes. Aman-ul-Mulk died with the crown on his head. After he had breathed his last, there was a general scramble among his children for the throne. The second son Afzal-ul-Mulk seized the fort of Chitral, slew as many of his brothers as he could, and drove his eldest brother Nizam out of the country. The latter fled to Gilgit and his fortunes seemed to be desperate. Suddenly, however, a revolution was effected at Chitral by a brother of Aman-ul-Mulk, named Shere Afzal, appearing on the scene. He surprised his nephew Afzal-ul-Mulk, slew him without difficulty as also one or two brothers of his, and seized the throne. When intelligence of this revolution reached Gilgit, Colonel Durand, the representative of the forward school of politics, thought proper to interfere. We do not know what the arguments were by which he brought over the Viceroy to his views, but the result was that Nizam, who had been staying at Gilgit, marched to Chitral, under at least the moral support of the British Government. Nizam succeeded in defeating his uncle Shere Afzal and driving him once more to Afghanistan whence he had come. The conqueror ruled Chitral for a little over two years, and then on the first day of the present year was slain by a brother named Amir-ul-Mulk. Desirous of regaining the throne, Shere Afzal, as soon as he heard of Nizam's murder, left Afghanistan and once more presented himself before Chitral. His attempt failed and Shere Afzal is now a prisoner of the British Government.

The Viceroy, from his place in the Supreme Council, on the occasion of the debate on the Budget, explained that, so far back as 1876 the Maharaja of Kashmir was permitted to accept the suzerainty of Chitral and that the Government of India undertook to afford countenance and material aid to Kashmir in the defence or maintenance of that arrangement. The pledge was repeated to Kashmir and directly to the ruler of Chitral also. For years subsidies have been granted both by the Government of India and Kashmir to Chitral. When the British Agency at Gilgit was withdrawn in 1881, assurance was given to Kashmir that the Government of India would still adhere to its policy with regard to Chitral. That policy, as defined by Lord Elgin, was "to accept the *de facto* Mehtar of Chitral provided he could maintain his position and accepted the suzerainty of Kashmir." Lord Elgin further explained that on the re-establishment of the Gilgit Agency in 1889, the legitimate influence of the British Government was maintained by the presence in Chitral of an officer who was an Assistant to the British Agent at Gilgit, with a small escort of troops supported by garrisons at Gupis and Ghizi in Yasin. His headquarters were at Mastuj, but he was in the habit of visiting Chitral now and then. This arrangement, it is said, was gratifying to the Mehtar himself who often expressed the wish to see the British Agent permanently established at Chitral itself, but the risk was one which the Government of India declined to take. In the beginning of the present year Nizam-ul-Mulk came to an untimely end. Lieutenant Gordon, the Political officer, then on a visit to Chitral, with an escort of only ten men, avoided with great tact and prudence a collision with Amir ul-Mulk. A reinforcement of fifty men then arrived from Mastuj, and then he was joined by Dr. Robertson on the 1st of February following with a further reinforcement.

These are Lord Elgin's explanations. One may pronounce them satisfactory so far as they go. But it is very much to be regretted that they do not go far enough. If the policy of the British Government was to recognise the *de facto* ruler of Chitral provided he could only maintain himself and accepted the suzerainty of Kashmir, why was not Shere Afzal recognised when he took the throne after the slaughter of his nephew Afzal? What made Colonel Durand support Nizam in his endeavours to dethrone his uncle? What was the kind of support that Colonel Durand was allowed to give to the defeated candidate who was living at Gilgit? Was it known to Shere Afzal that his nephew marched against him with the support, moral or material, of the British Government? Was Shere Afzal regarded as too powerful a ruler to be allowed to occupy the throne of Chitral long? We know, for an Under-Secretary of State for India declared it in Parliament, that the Government of India is very jealous of superior abilities in feudatory rulers and chiefs. Was Nizam supported because he was of mediocre talents? Then, again, when Nizam-ul-Mulk fell a victim to the fury or cunning of his brother Amir-ul-Mulk, was there any desire on the part of the British Government to punish the murderer of a prince who while alive had been known to rule with the support of that Government? Amir-ul-Mulk soon became the favourite of the British Agent at Chitral. Has the British Government ever enquired into the sentiments which a policy of this kind inspires in the breasts of Asiatic peoples? The sight of a British Resident or Agent talking to-day with friendliness with a particular chief and giving him, in the name of his Government, rifles and money for strengthening his position, and the week after shaking hands with the utmost cordiality with the murderer of that chief and behaving towards him in all other respects in exactly the same way as he had towards his unfortunate victim, can, to say the least, inspire only disagreeable feelings in every Asiatic mind. Hindu mythology declares that Indra, the ruler of the Heavens, falls, but his queen Sachi never falls. Blessed with eternal youth and beauty, she approaches the next Indra with as smiling a countenance as she had put on while approaching his predecessor in his days. Inspite of her unchangeable youth and beauty, and her position as the eternal queen of the celestial regions, and the admiration she extorts from all the visitors of the celestial durbar, is there any doubt that she is despised by all in their heart of hearts?

The British Government, by engaging to support the ruler who is only able to maintain himself and prepared to accept British suzerainty, demonstrates its own weakness and creates the impression in the Asiatic mind that British recognion and friendship and British subsidies of money and arms are entirely unmeaning and worthless. Look at the case of Sir Jung Bahadur of Nepal and his brother Sir Ranadip Sing Bahadur. The former placed the resources of Nepal at the disposal of the British Government during the worst days of the Sepoy Mutiny. Napalese blood and money were freely poured for reconquering Gangetic India on behalf of Britain. Both Sir Jung and his brother fought personally against the enemies of Britain. There cannot be the slightest doubt that the speedy suppression of the Sepoy revolt was due to the effective aid rendered by Sir Jung Bahadur and his brother. The former died. Sir Ranadip succeeded him as Prime Minister. His attitude towards the British Government was exceedingly friendly. Sir Ranadip was foully murdered in the bosom of his family by a villainous nephew, The eldest son of Jung Bahadur and his son also were murdered as foully. The ablest of his sons, General Ranbir Jung, was forced to take refuge in the British Residency. With a haste that was exceedingly indecent, the British Government recognised the assassin of Sir Ranadip and of Sir Jung Bahadur's children, and quietly suffered General Ranabir Jung to be driven from the British Residency in Nepal into British India. General Ranbir Jung had officiated on several occasions as Prime Minister of Nepal and he is now a refugee in British India without even the means of living like a Nepalese nobleman. Lord Elgin curtly rejected General Ranbir Jung's prayer for a pecuniary allowance. As representative of the British Power in the East, Lord Elgin had the littleness of refusing a son's prayer for a pittance wellknowing that his father had spent some crores for helping Lord Canning. Bir Shum Shere is the *de facto* Prime Minister and, therefore, deserves to be recognised. Such is the wise policy of the British Government of India. The people of Asia fail to distinguish such policy from the worst forms of selfishness and ingratitude.

Nizam-ul-Mulk, though he ruled with the support of the British Government, was murdered by Amir-ul-Mulk. The small British force at Chitral won the approbation of the Viceroy and his councillors for the tact with which it avoided hostilities with the new ruler. Shere Afzal saw that the British Government did not raise its little finger to avenge the late Mehtar. He collected an army and showed himself before Chitral. He wanted to fight Amir-ul-Mulk and ascend the throne which had once been his and to which his claim was as good as that of Amir himself. Shere Afzal, in the first instance, could have no motive to attack the British force at Chitral. It was Amir-ul-Mulk who was Shere Afzal's enemy, and Shere Afzal came to adjust accounts with him. A little tact on the part of Dr. Robertson could easily have prevented a collision between himself and the invader. As far as the facts are known to this date, the entire blame must fall on Dr. Robertson and none else for what happened subsequent to Shere Afzal's appearance before Chitral. The invader ought to have been allowed to settle his accounts with Amir-ul-Mulk without the slightest interference by the British Agent at Chitral If Umrah Khan chose to assist Shere Afzal in the latter's efforts to regain the Mehtarship of Chitral, we fail to see how he could be taken as acting contumaciously towards the British Power. The Viceroy says that Umrah Khan had been informed of the fact that Chitral was under British suzerainty. Could Umrah Khan believe that the British Government was serious? That Government had done nothing to avenge the murder of its devoted ally or feudatory Nizam. Why should it not allow Umrah Khan and Shere Afzal to try their strength with the murderer? Did they say that after settling their accounts with Amir-ul-Mulk they would not accept British suzerainty? The fact is, the Chitral imbroglio was the direct consequence of the British policy of recognising the *de facto* ruler if only he can maintain himself and accept the position of a British feudatory. The plea that Shere Afzal had not the unanimous support of the Chitralis themselves is exceedingly hollow. Was a plebiscite taken throughout the Mehtar's dominions before the Government of India came to the conclusion that Shere Afzal was not really liked by those over whom he came to rule? When Nizam was murdered, we suppose another vote was taken for ascertaining that his popularity had waned and that all the Chitralis wanted to have Amir-ul-Mulk for a wholesome change.

Whether the fruits of the campaign should or should not be thrown away is a difficult question to answer. Already the military authorities are pronouncing on the value of Chitral as a strategic position. The road to Chitral has been opened at a great cost. The British Empire of India is highly elastic. Chitral may or may not be annexed. It is, however, more than certain that with its advantages as a strategical base, British influence at Chitral cannot once more be contracted into what it was before the campaign The Empire is destined to expand as it has expanded in spite of protests and warnings in the past. It is a law of growth which can no more be resisted than the force of gravitation. Let the empire then fulfil its destiny. Only, let us not hear in the future of this wretched policy of supporting *de facto* rulers. Let liberality and gratitude take the place of downright selfishness. Let the people of Asia see that British recognition or friendship means something. Let them understand that feudatories or others who are loyal to that Government are entitled to its support, and above all let Asia understand that the slaughter of a British feudatory or ally, or of one whom the British Government honours with its friendship, is certain to be avenged in a truly imperial spirit.

CONTAGION IN TUBERCULOSIS.

BY GEORGE A. EVANS, M.D.

(Read before the Medical Society of the County of Kings, February 20, 1894.)

In order to empasize more forcibly the necessity of adopting active measures to limit the prevalence of tuberculosis in this city, it may not be amiss at this time to lay before the Society a brief compilation of data upon which your "Committee on Tuberculosis" largely based its recommendations.

This occasion also affords an opportunity to say that your committee followed somewhat in the footsteps of Dr. Herman M. Biggs, in his report on the subject to the New York City Board of Health.

In 1891, Dr. George H. F. Nuttall, of the Johns Hopkins University, reported his observations on the numbers of bacilli in the sputum in three cases of pulmonary tuberculosis undergoing the Koch treatment; these observations were made every few days. In the first case the patient expectorated 2,000,000,000 bacilli during the 24 hours. After the patient was inoculated with tuberculin the number rose to between 3,000,000,000 and 4,000,000,000. After the inoculations ceased the number fell to what it had been originally. In the second case the number of

bacilli varied between 20,000,000 and 165,000,000 on the days preceding the Koch inoculations, while the third case varied between 70,000,000 and 12,000,000 before the inoculations. In another case, not undergoing the Koch treatment, the number of bacilli varied between 300,000,000 and 4,000,000,000. The accuracy of Nuttall's method of computation was demonstrated by a number of test and culture experiments.

According to Bollinger, one cubic centimetre of phthisical sputum contains from 810,000 to 960,000 tubercle bacilli. The average consumptive, therefore, expectorates between 30,000,000 and 40,000,000 of these parasites a day.

In a series of experiments of investigations made by Dr. T. Mitchell Prudden, of New York, in 1891, as many as 21,460,000 tubercle bacilli were computed to be present in the daily sputum of a single patient. From data taken from the vital statistics report of the last census of the United States, it is safe to assume that the whole number of deaths due to pulmonary phthisis in the entire country during the year 1890, was over 125,000. If we estimate the average duration of the disease as two years, there would be two cases in existence for every death. In this way we estimate 11,000 cases in existence in New York City, 4,000 in Brooklyn and 13,000 in the rest of New York State.

Most of these phthisical subjects eject for months large quantities of sputa containing immense numbers of spore-bearing tubercle-bacilli. "Most of these countless infective germs (to quote Robert Koch) which are scattered everywhere, on the floor, on articles of clothing, etc., perish without finding an opportunity of settling again in a living host, but we should further bear in mind the results of Fischer's and Schill's experiments which demonstrate that tubercle-bacilli may retain their virulence for 43 days in putrefying sputum, and for 186 days in sputum dried at the ordinary temperature of the air." It has also been shown by Sawizky that tuberculous sputum, dried and preserved under the conditions which usually obtain in the dwelling-house, preserves its infective properties for two months, while the experiments of Stone go to show that the virulence of these parasites may be extended for as long a period as three years. Koch says: "There can be no doubt as to the manner in which the tubercular virus is carried from phthisical to healthy subjects." By the force of the patient's cough particles of tenacious sputum are dislodged, discharged into the air, and so scattered.

"Now, numerous experiments have shown that the inhalation of scattered particles of phthisical sputum causes tuberculosis with absolute certainty, not only in animals easily susceptible to the disease, but in those also which have much more power of resisting it." Koch goes on to state that, while a healthy person who is brought into immediate contact with a phthisical patient and inhaling the fragments of fresh sputum discharged into the air may be thereby infected, inhaling dried sputum in the form of dust is much more likely to set up tuberculosis.

Schirner, of Vienna, reports in the *Wiener Medizinische Presse*, January 4, 1891, that one day in 1888, on rinsing the dust from some grapes bought on a warm day, late in summer, he found the water quite dirty, and, struck by the thought of the large number of phthisical patients who eject their sputa upon the streets, he ejected 10 cubic centimetres of this into the abdominal cavity of each of three guinea pigs. One of the animals died in two days of peritonitis. The other two died in 45 and 58 days, respectively.

Examinations of the bodies disclosed extensive tuberculous infiltration at the site of inoculation, and partly caseous nodules in the peritoneum, in the liver, in the spleen, but with meagre deposits in the lungs. Tubercle bacilli were found in the nodules.

In a communication made to the Académie des Sciences, MM. Spillman and Haushalter, and recorded in *La Semaine Medicale*, the question of the spread of the tubercle-bacillus by means of the common house fly is considered. The authors state that they have seen flies enter spittoons containing the sputum of phthisical patients; they were then caught and placed in a bell jar. On the following day several of them were dead. Examination of the abdominal contents and excrement of these flies on the inside of the jar showed the presence of many tubercle-bacilli.

Corner's experiments, which were published in the *International Klinische Rundschau*, demonstrate beyond doubt the infective nature of the dust removed from the walls of rooms in dwellings and from those of hospital wards in which tuberculous subjects have lived. In order to examine the walls and floors of rooms, the surfaces were washed over with sterilized sponges, which were then used to inoculate broth, the resulting culture being injected into the abdominal walls of 3 guinea-pigs. The animals were killed forty days later and a careful necropsy made. Twenty-one hospital wards, in which most of the patients were phthisical, were examined in this way, the result being that, from the dust of 15 of them, tuberculosis was set up.

Similar observations made in lunatic asylums showed that the walls of these establishments are very frequently infected with tubercle. Private houses, were persons affected with phthisis had lived, gave likewise very distinct, positive results. The investigations of Flick in Philadelphia, as well as those of De Forest in New Haven, which were made to determine the infective or non-infective nature of the atmosphere of rooms in which tuberculous subjects had lived, were also conclusively affirmative.

Marfan, of Paris (*Semaine Medicale*), reports the following details of a localized epidemic of pulmonary phthisis, in which the element of infection seems to have played a very important part.

"In a large business house in the centre of Paris, 22 persons were employed about eight hours a day. One of them, aged 40, had been phthisical for three years, when he died. He coughed and spat upon the floor for three years, and did not leave his work till three months before his death. From this time, out of 22 persons employed, 15 have died. One only died of cancer, the remaining 14 died of pulmonary tuberculosis. One year before the death of the first person, who appears to have been the starting point of the epidemic, two employees who had been connected with the same business for more than ten years, began to cough and spit upon the floor. They died in 1885. Beginning with the end of 1884, the deaths followed each other at close intervals."

At the meeting of the Congress for the study of tuberculosis, which was held in Paris, in 1888, a permanent committee was appointed to formulate simple and practical instructions regarding the prophylaxis of tuberculosis. On behalf of this committee, Villemin submitted a report which received the approval of four professors of the medical faculty of Paris, of which the following is a brief summary.

1. Tuberculosis is, of all diseases, the one which has the largest number of victims in the cities, and even in certain country districts. In 1884, for instance, of 57,970 deaths in Paris, 15,000 were due to tuberculosis.

2. Tuberculosis is a virulent, contagious, transmissible parasitic disease, produced by a microbe, the bacillus of Koch. The microbe, apart from direct hereditary tranmission, finds its way into the organism through the digestive and respiratory tracts, and through wounds of the skin and mucous membrane. The propagation of tuberculosis may be prevented by well-directed precautions.

3. The parasite of tuberculosis may be found in the milk, muscles and blood of the food of animals. The use of raw and under done meat, and blood that may possibly contain the living germ of tuberculosis, should be prohibited. Milk, for the same reasons, should be boiled before being used.

4. On account of the dangers concealed in milk, the protection of infants, who are so easily attacked by tuberculosis, should attract the special attention of mothers and nurses. The tuberculous mother should not nurse her child. Cow's milk, when given, should always be boiled. There is less danger in giving ass's and goat's milk unboiled.

5 It is greatly to the interest of the public to assure the proper inspection of meat, as provided for by law. The only sure way to avoid the dangers of tubercular meat is to see that it is *thoroughly* cooked.

6. Inasmuch as the germ of tuberculosis may be conveyed from a tubercular to a healthy man by the sputum, pus, inspissated mucus, and any object containing tubercular dust, it is necessary to bear in mind that:

a. The sputum of phthisical persons being the most dangerous agent of transmission, there is a public danger from its presence upon the ground, carpet, hangings, curtains, napkins, handkerchiefs, cloths and bedding.

b The use of cuspidors by everyone should be insisted upon in all places. Cuspidors should always be emptied into the fire and cleansed by boiling water. They should never be emptied into rubbish piles, upon gardens, or where there is a possibility of infecting poultry, or even into water-closets.

c. It is unsafe to sleep in the bed of a tuberculous patient, or to spend a great amount of time in the room of such a patient; least of all should young children be allowed to sleep in such a room.

d. Individuals considered as predisposed to contract tuberculosis should be kept away from localities frequented by phthisical patients.

e. One should not use objects contaminated by phthisis (linen, bedding, clothing, toilet articles, jewelry, hangings, furniture, play things, etc.) except after suitable disinfection.

f. Rooms and houses occupied at watering-places and resorts, should be furnished in such manner that disinfection may be easily carried out after the departure of each invalid. It is the best plan of all to furnish rooms without curtains, carpets or hangings, to whitewash the walls and cover the floors with linoleum.—*Brooklyn Med. Jour.*

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SAD MISHAP WITH ANIMAL EXTRACTS.

* * * *

The blunders I wish to call attention to occurred recently in the preparation and use of the animal extracts so fortunately discovered by the late Dr. Brown-Sequard, of Paris, France, and so effectually developed by certain eminent physicians in our own country. After having carefully and diligently experimented for quite a lengthy period in the manufacture and use of these extracts, I came to the conclusion, from my results in the treatment of certain functional troubles, that I had accidentally hit upon an unusually excellent technique in the manipulation, and felt emboldened to try my hand in the treatment of some organic troubles.

One particular lot of the extract had proved so exceptionally efficient that I decided to adopt the method pursued in its preparation as a rule for my laboratory. Looking up the note of the method I had employed with it, I ascertained that in all essential particulars except one I had followed that of the high authorities now everywhere recognized in this connection. The exception had regard to the length of time given to the maceration. Instead of one year, the regulation time, I had left the material in the macerating vats for eleven months, five weeks and eight days.

My first experiment was made with two black-and-tan setter dogs, who, in attempting to take charge of some blue-grass hay in the manger of a Kentucky thoroughbred stallion, had been set upon by that spirited animal and compelled to beat a hasty retreat, each with the complete loss of an ear. These canines were named, respectively, Ardotto and Scipio. Ardotto had lost his left ear and Scipio his right. As Ardotto had become quite vicious, and was also unkindly suspected by the neighbours of eating his mutton too fresh, I conceived the notion of killing him and feeding his ear to Scipio in the shape of aurine, or ear-extract, to be made according to my improved formula.

The result was marvellous. In the course of a few weeks after Scipio began taking the aurine thus prepared, an ear began growing rapidly from the old stump, and in a short time the appendage was fully restored. If there was any difference, it looked smoother and glossier than the other, and, indeed, though not noted at the time, it was an exact reproduction of the ear of the condemned Ardotto. I failed to take into consideration at the time that the dogs were twins, that they had lost opposite ears, and that they were both black-and-tan, all these coincidences being purely accidental. However, after a short time Scipio was unluckily run over by a street-car, and lost his left hind leg. Encouraged by my former successes, I began looking up a suitable dog that could spare a leg, or a leg that could spare a dog, with the view of preparing a quantity of legine, in the hope of restoring as before the lost member. The first dog brought was a strong, bench-legged cur, with a shaggy, well-curled tail. After the carcass had been divided ready for committing to the vats, it somehow failed to meet the fancy of my assistants as well as myself, so we threw it aside and substituted an animal that appeared to be a vigorous cross between setter and Newfoundland, using the right hind leg in the preparation of the extract.

An enterprising young friend, however, took it into his head to treat a bob-tailed dog belonging to his mother, with a preparation of tailine, in the hope of restoring the missing member, and requested permission to prepare the extract in my laboratory from the tail of the rejected cur. To this I cheerfully consented.

After macerating our materials with scrupulous regard to the period we had adopted as our rule, *viz.*: thirteen months, five weeks and eleven days, my assistants went into the laboratory early in the morning, before it was fairly light, to get the legine to begin on Scipio's leg. Unfortunately, in doing so they cracked the glass jar containing it. The jar in which my young friend had prepared his tailine stood next to it, but was thought by them to be empty. Into this they hastily poured the legine and brought the jar into the operating-room, where the mixture was administered to Scipio.

At first things went on most gratifyingly. A leg began growing rapidly from Scipio's stump, and in a short time it was thought best to turn him out for exercise so that the new joints might be made supple. When he was brought out it was observed that the hair on his tail was becoming rather coarse and stiff, and it was noticed, too, that his tail had begun to turn over his back. At first, however, it was thought that this roughness of the hair was due to the fact that he had not been in a situation to have the toilet of his tail properly attended to, while the curling was attributed to pressure against the walls of the narrow kennel in which he had been confined. Both the curling of the tail and the state of the hair grew worse daily, and an investigation which was now set on foot developed the mistake by which the legine and the tailine had become mixed.

In a short time Scipio's tail had become markedly bushy and ugly, and eventually became curled so tight over his back that half the time his hind feet were lifted clear off the ground. This led to the discovery that the extract from some animals is prepotent as compared to others, for evidently the tail-developing elements of the cur had predominated over those of Scipio. But poor Scipio's misfortunes did not end here. We had made the legine from the right leg of the mongrel, and the result was that a right leg grew on Scipio's left stump, and the dew claw was on the wrong side. Furthermore, Scipio had always been a right-handed accelerator, that is, he had been in the habit of lifting his right leg whenever he felt an inclination to moisten hat-racks, door-posts and the like, and by a streak of ill-fortune the same had been the case with the mongrel. So, when it became necessary for Scipio to discharge the renal secretion both legs would begin bouncing up in the most tumultuous and unsymmetrical way, and this, with the tilting of the hind-quarters due to the tight-curling of the tail, made poor Scipio at such times a picture of confusion, shame and chagrin that could not but touch a tender spot in the bosom of the most unsympathetic.

Imagine the consequences if I had been treating a sensitive young lady, say a beautiful blonde, who had happened to lose her nose through infection from the kisses of too ardent a lover, and a similar blunder had been made! Imagine that noseine derived from the black, broad and flat proboscis of some glossy son of Africa had been used in the treatment, and worse still, if worse can be, that some one making hairine from kinky shearings from the same source had got the extracts mixed as we did. I draw the veil!

Half the seigniorage in the national treasury would not suffice to meet the damages, especially if the jury should happen to take its cue from a verdict in a recent noted case at the national capital. I only venture this allusion in order to suggest the measure of gratitude that is due me for making this humiliating confession purely for the good of the profession, and bravely regardless of the fact that well-nigh universal success characterizes reports throughout medical literature.—LUKIANOS, in *The American Practitioner and News.*

GRANNY GORTON'S BIRTHDAY.

SATURDAY, January 21st, was a great day in Central Village, in the State of Connecticut, in America. On that day Mrs. Jonathan Gorton was 100 years old and formally received her friends, of whom hundreds were present. She wore her best black silk gown, with a rose in the bodice. The venerable lady was seated in a comfortable armchair on a platform in the best room of her house. Then the train of callers filed through, each and all shaking hands with her. "Granny Gorton," as she is called, is a trim little body and very nimble on her feet. There was never anything ailed her, she says, and, except that her eyesight isn't quite so good as it used to be, she is as active as any woman of 50.

Why has Granny Gorton lived so long? Why is she so active now? She lets out the secret herself when she says, "There was never anything ailed me." That's it, and all of it.

People who live 100 years are not so very rare. The deaths of 45 such were reported last year in England—22 men and 23 women. Yet, compared to the multitudes who die, these are nothing—nothing. Can we not keep things from ailing us, and so live long as Mrs. Gorton? Yes, if we will take the trouble to do it! Men and women 100 years old, still vigorous and clear-headed, should be a sight so common as not to be remarked, and will be yet in the future. Why not so *now*? "Ask yourself the question," as the boatmen say down on Deal beach.

Here's how it is: A woman's tale. She says she fell ill when a girl of about 15. She lost her appetite, had pains in the sides and chest, frequent headaches, and was often obliged to lie down on the couch and rest. All this didn't promise long life, did it? No; it was a bad start.

Well, she got worse instead of better. She was often sick, vomited her food, and spitting of a sour fluid. For five years she went on this way. This brings us to October, 1881. She was then in service as parlour-maid at Leamington Hastings, Warwickshire. Here she suffered from constant sickness, retching, and heartburn. The chest pains were so bad as to bend her two double. No position that she could take relived her. Her stomach was so tender and sore that everything she ate pained and distressed her. For months and months she only took liquid food—milk and beaten eggs, and so on.

She got weaker and weaker every day, so she says. Of course; how else could it be? A doctor at Rugby told her she had "ulceration of the chest," which she didn't at all. What is "ulceration of the chest?"

He gave her medicines and advice, but she grew no better on that account. This young lady was now about 20 years old, with a poor outlook for ever being much older. She didn't expect it, nor did her friends. Then another doctor, being consulted, said "ulceration of the chest," like his medical brother at Rugby. Both wrong.

"After Six months' medical treament" she says, "I gave up my situation and returned to my home at Buxton Lamas, Norfolk. This was in June, 1882. Then I was taken so bad I had to take to my bed. My mother thought I was in a decline."

Now, the word "decline" means consumption, as we all know; a disease common in England and incurable everywhere. Thousands of bright girls and young men "decline" into their graves every years in this populous island. Sad enough it is to see.

Well, at this point her good and wise mother interfered in her daughter's case. She gave the doctors the go-by and sent to Norwich for some bottles of Mother Seigel's Curative Syrup. In two weeks the young patient began to feel better, and in three months she got a new situation and went to work.

"Since then, fifteen years ago," she says, "I have kept in better health than ever before in my life, thanks to Seigel's Syrup. Yours truly, (Signed) (Mrs.) SARAH ELEANOR BAKER, 8, King's Street, Church Road Tottenham, near London, September 30th, 1892."

A dozen words more and we're done. Mrs. Baker's ailment was indigestion and dyspepsia, nothing else, and quite enough. The "ulceration" was inflammation of the inner coating of the stomach, a symptom of the disease. We wish her a long and happy life, and merely add that if all her sex could avoid or cure this one trouble most of them might live to be as old as Granny Gorton.

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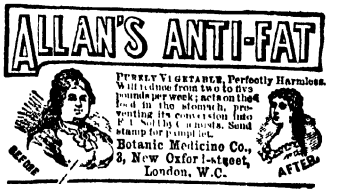

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THE PASSING OF MUHAMMAD, PROPHET OF ARABIA.

A DRAMATIC SKETCH BY SIR EDWIN ARNOLD.

The scene is the house of Ayesha,—Muhammad's favourite wife,—at Medina ; the date being the month of June, A. D. 632. Muhammad is lying on his bed, sick unto death, his wives and certain Arab women attending him.

AYESHA—

Allah ! we never looked that he should lie
This way, like others : weak and lean and cold,
Moaning with mortal pain—whom we did know
The Prophet of the Lord.
Maimuna ! drive
The gray fly from his brow ! Dost thou recall
O Salma's sister ! what a brow it was,
How lordly, with the blue vein swollen big
When he was wroth, or unbelievers irked ?
What eyes these sealed eyes were, so keen and stern,
That day, the eighth of Dzul Hijj, when we went
The pilgrimage to Mecca—we his wives,
And five score victims for the sacrifice ;
He in the front of all, by Bital led,
Riding Al Kaswa, that good beast which found
The desert well, and knelt at Kaaba—
Dropped in the season when he wedded thee ?
Was it not like to locust-swarms the folk
Hung round Muhassir, and on Arafat,
Glad eager masses, while he stood aloft,—
As't were the Angel of the Seal, methought,—
In Mina, saying loud : " I have fulfilled
The message ! I have left amidst ye here
A plain command, the Book of Allah ! This,
If ye hold fast, shall guide aright your feet."
And, lifting up his gaze, he spake aloud ;
" O Lord ! I have delivered all thy will ;
Witness thou for me !" Then, what thunder rolled
Of forty thousand score of tongues which cried :
" Aye ! of a truth thou hast !" ; Did we not deem
He climb too near to Heaven in those great hours
Ever to fall, like this, to us and death ?
By Allah ! did ye think it could be so ?

MAIMUNA—Nay ; and how bright with life this wan cheek was
When he came back from Mecca, all his heart
Full of God's peace, the seven due circuits done,
The Zemzem water quaffed, and each thing set
In just ensample for the days to be
When men shall wend to Mecca ! Ayesha !
Thou wert on Arafat that dawn he spake
The sunrise prayer—and afterward the verse
From the fifth Sura : " This day have I made
Truth finished for ye ; this day have fulfilled
My mercy toward ye ; this day do appoint
Islam your faith forever." On that night
I did not dare caress him when he came
Into my tent ; I let the date-water
Spill from the leathern bowl, afeard to speak,
He was so rapt I chafed his feet, and dropped
My eyes—ashamed of his far-seeing eyes.

ASMA (*sister to* MAIMÚNA) –

For me, I held him most majestical,
Surest of years, that day when Zeid's son
Osâma took command for Syria.
How like a conqueror did our Lord unroll
The banner of black wool, and bind the sword
Which flashed at Beder on Osâma's thigh,
Saying : " Fight thou with this under my flag,
In Allah's name for Allah's truth, and smite
And break the unbelievers !" Then, indeed,
Who would have dreamed our Master nigh to this

AYESHA—Yet he fell sick next night. Oh, had we marked,
There lacked not signs. Fatma ! hast thou in mind
How Abu Beki met him two moons back
In the mosque gate, and, noting that his beard
Grizzled amid its flowing ebon, spake
Full sorrowfuly in a sudden grief :
" Thou—who than father or than mother art
More dear to all—alack ! I see gray hairs
Are hastening in upon thee !" and his eyes
Brimmed with quick tear-drops when the Prophet raised
With both thin hands his beard, gazing thereon,
And answering, " Yea ! 't is travail of the Word
Hath wrought its sign upon me : night and day
The saying of the ' Suras Terrible '—
' Hud,' and ' The Striking,' and ' The inevitable '—
Has burned my strength to ashes."

FATMA— Aye ! 't was so ;
Yet sought we ever what might bring him rest
His uncle Abbas, seeing how the folk
Thronged round him in the mosque, said . " If we build
A lofty seat for thee, they shall not throng."
But sweet reply our Lord gave . " Kinsman kind !
I will not cease from moving in their midst,
Dragging my abbas through the press of them,
And covered with their dust, till Allah's call
Bring me my time of peace."

DEAFNESS. An essay describing a really genuine Cure for Deafness, Singing in Ears, &c., no matter how severe or long-standing, will be sent post free.—Artificial Ear-drums and similar appliances entirely superseded. Address THOMAS KEMPE, VICTORIA CHAMBERS, 19, SOUTHAMPTON BUILDINGS, HOLBORN, LONDON.

Subscribers in the country are requested to remit by postal money orders, if possible, as the safest and most convenient medium, particularly as it ensures acknowledgment through the Department. No other receipt will be given, any other being unnecessary and likely to cause confusion.

AYESHA— Ah, Fatma! moist
His lips with honey, for I think they move,
And peradventure 't will be Allah's will
This weakness shall go by. Yet latterly
Oftimes he did recite, as if t were due,
That Sura which doth say: "When God's help comes,
And victory, and thou shalt see all tribes
Entering by troops the gateways of the Faith,
Then celebrate the praises of thy Lord,
And seek his mercy who is merciful."

FATMA—Aunt! When that same great Sura was writ down,
He called me; spake to me with quiet eyes:
"My daughter! it is opened I shall die."
At which hard word mine eyes broke into floods
Like rain on Yemen in the sowing-time.
But he said softly: "Nay, Khadija's child!
Weep not; be comforted! since, verily,
Thou shalt first join with me in Paradise."
Thereat no more I wept, but in my heart
Joy gleamed like sun-breaks when the rain is done.

MAIMUNA—Most happy Fatma! if it were to me
He had spoke so, this sorrow would not lie
Crushing my soul, as when her too great load
Keeps bent the camel's knee. I too recall
How—when it was my night, and naught he loved
Soothed him, not date-cakes, nor the rabab's string,
Nor perfumes of the myrrh and ambergris,
Nor kisses,—and ye women wot he liked
Women and scents and sweets—he rose from me,
Wrapped his striped izar-cloth about his head,
And, lifting up the inner curtain, passed
Into the jeweled stillness of the night.
With fearful steps I dared to follow him,—
Ah, sisters! not to spy,—solicitous
Lest wandering beast or sinful robber hurt
The Prophet of the Lord. But he came straight,
Quick-striding, resolute, to where our dead
Sleep by the city wall There, 'mid the tombs,
Long leaned he on his cedar staff, intent,
Deep-meditating, silent. At the end
A jackal barked: whereon, as if the cry
Roused him, I heard him in most gentle tones
Speak to the dead: "Verily, ye and I
Have found fulfilment of what Allah pledged.
Blessèd are ye, and blessèd is your lot
Beyond the lot of those left in the world!
Sleep well, till God's great daybreak wakens you.
O Lord! shew mercy to these slumberers,
And grant thy grace to me!" At that he turned
And hastened back with such assurèd strides
Scarce I had space to outrun him, and to quench
The kindled lamp, and cast my sandals by,
And seem to slumber, when he came again,
Chilled, to my side, and whispered: "This good night
Allah hath proffered me which thing I would,—
Long life, or else to meet my Lord betimes,—
And I have chosen very soon to die."

AYESHA—That was the week my brows ached; and I moaned,
"My head! my head!" not wotting he was near.
Then entered he, his own brow knit with pain,
And lightly spake: "'T is I might cry, 'My head!'
So bitter is this heat that scorcheth me!
But thou, Umm Ruman's child!—were it not sweet
If Allah willed thou didst die first: so I
That loved thee best, might speak the prayers for thee,
And wrap thee in thy grave-cloth, Ayesha,
And lay thee safe till I came too, Gazelle?"
"Now, God forbid!" quoth I—as who would turn
A heaviness to merriment. "Thy wish,
I fear me, Prophet, is to find some eyes
Brighter than Ayesha's when she is gone,
Giving the love that hath been mine to her."
But wistfully he smiled, and silent went.

MAIMUNA—Yea, yea! we know he loved you best. You came
New to him from the goat's milk and the games.
But I, and Haphsa, Zenab, and the rest,
Dwelled in the outer garden of his love.
It was his will: we grudge thee not; 't is meet
He lie now in thy chamber, Ayesha,
Since—save Khadija—thou in all these years
Held most his heart. But oh, have heed to him—
He strives to speak!

(MUHAMMAD *awakens.*)

(To be continued.)

WEEKLYANA.

THERE is a movement in France to erect a memorial of some sort to Napoleon's troops at Waterloo. With the permission of the Belgian Government, it is proposed to set up one near Braine la Leud or Mont St. Jean. The Committee of the Souvenir Français, a French Patriotic Society, has accordingly invited subscriptions. The *Army and Navy Gazette* says: "There are a very large number of memorials on the battlefield, but they are exclusively devoted to the men of the allied forces. The spot where the Prince of Orange was wounded, the pits in which Hanoverians and others were buried, and even the place where the Marquis of Anglesea's amputated leg was placed in the ground, have all their memorials. Yet the French, though they fought with so much bravery and persistency on that ever-memorable 18th of June, have no monument at all."

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THERE will be a special meeting, on May 20, of the Royal Geographical Society, to commemorate the fiftieth anniversary of the departure of the *Erebus* and *Terror*, under Sir John Franklin.

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THE twentieth century is being anticipated.

"Under the title of *Twentieth Century*, a new monthly review of a high character is promised for the beginning of May. The editor is Mr. William Graham, and each number will contain a short story by a distinguished novelist besides reviews of the literature and theatrical events of the month. Among those contributing to the first number are Mr. H. D. Trail, Sir Edwin Arnold and Lord Byron."

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THE following Notes and News are from *Luzac's Oriental List*:—

"In the forty years which have elapsed since Professor Weber wrote his celebrated dissertation on the origin of the Açoka alphabet from the oldest known form of the Phoenician, many theories have been propounded in support of other derivations. The whole question has now been subjected to a careful scrutiny by Professor G. Buhler to whose learned researches Indian epigraphy owes some of its most brilliant results. In the third fasciculus of his *Indian Studies*, after proving that the art of writing was known and practised in India at a much earlier period than has generally been assumed, he proceeds to show that all the new discoveries in Indian and Semitic epigraphy point to the fact that the old Indian or Brahmi alphabet is based on a Semitic (Phoenician) prototype. The various steps by which he arrives at his conclusion are well worth careful detailed study. Every new discovery in Semitic paleography will be sure to aid in confirming his identifications and more and more establishing the solid basis on which his theory rests."

"The favourable opinion we expressed of the first volume of Professor H. Grimme's Mohammed applies with equal force to the second volume which contains an introduction to the Koran and a dissertation on the system of Koranic theology. The chief merit of the volume consists in its being based like its predecessor on independent research Proceeding from an exposition of his views concerning the origin of the Koran and the chronological arrangement of the Suras, the author shews that there was far more system in Mohammed's teaching than has generally been assumed, while he traces the modifications that many doctrines underwent in their passage through the various phases of religious development. With all due allowance for what is good and noble in Islam, he records his final opinion that it has entered upon a period of complete decomposition, and will inevitably collapse under the continued influence of European and Christian civilization."

"The fragments extant of the works of the Jewish poet and grammarian Mose ben Samuel hakkohen ibn Chiquitilla have been collected and published, together with an exhaustive introduction and a full commentary, by Dr. Samuel Poznánski, and will be issued in the near future."

"Dr. M J. de Goeje, the well known Professor of Arabic in the University of Leiden, has received from the King of Prussia, the Ordre pour le Mérite."

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THE letter from the Adjutant-General in India, dated the 13th April 1895, forwarding a despatch from Lieutenant-General Sir W. S A. Lockhart, K. C. B., C. S. I., Commanding the Waziristan Field Force, detailing the operations of the troops under his command from the 15th December 1894 to the 13th March 1895, is published in the

Gazette of India of 11th May. The despatch is introduced with the following observations :—

"The Governor-General in Council entirely concurs with the Commander-in-Chief in India in his appreciation of the skilful manner in which Lieutenant-General Sir William Lockhart has conducted the operations of the Waziristan Field Force to a completely successful issue; the strategical dispositions of Sir William Lockhart were so admirably planned and so effectively carried out as to prevent that combined resistance on the part of the Waziris which, had it taken place, would have increased the military importance of the expedition at the cost of greater loss of life to the troops engaged. His Excellency in Council is also fully sensible of the excellent conduct of the officers and men engaged in the operations, which were of the most trying nature, and he has noticed with satisfaction the good services of those who have been especially brought to notice.

His Excellency in Council is glad to have an opportunity of expressing his appreciation of the services rendered by Mr. R. I. Bruce, C I E., Commissioner of the Derajat, who had full political responsibility in Waziristan before Lieutenant-General Sir William Lockhart took command. The acknowledgments of the Government of India are also due to Mr. L. White King, C S., Deputy Commissioner of Dera Ismail Khan, and Mr. H. A Anderson, C S., Deputy Commissioner of Bannu, who respectively carried out the delimitation of the southern and northern portions of the Afghan-Waziristan boundary under Lieutenant-General Sir William Lockhart's orders. His Excellency in Council also notices with pleasure the efficiency of the arrangements made by the Postal and Telegraph services under Mr. W. Van Someren and Mr. A. J. L. Grimes, respectively.

The Governor-General in Council further desires to express his sincere acknowledgments of the great care and attention given to all matters with which the Government of the Punjab were concerned, and of the valuable advice given by the Hon'ble Sir Dennis Fitzpatrick in connection with the various phases of these operations."

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MR Justice Gurudas Banerjee has obtained privilege leave for one month.

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A BOLD attempt was made to steal Mrs. Langtry's diamonds.

"A man broke through the window of her dressing-room at Palmer's Theatre, and laid hold of the jewellery which was spread out upon her dressing-table. Mrs. Langtry, who was dressing for her part, sprang upon the man, who dropped the jewels, and escaped through the window. The alarm was raised, and a rapidly-growing crowd started in pursuit, but failed to overtake the thief."

Few women, European or Asiatic, could spring so courageously on the robber. Mrs. Langtry deserves to wear her diamonds.

***

THE status of the canine population in Belgium is very different from what it is in other countries.

"One of the first things that impress the stranger in Brussels is the immense number of dogs employed in drawing barrows and small carts about the streets. In the capital alone over 100 000 dogs are so engaged and the number of draught dogs in the whole country is probably not less than 50 000. Generations of servitude have made the Belgian dog a race apart. For his size, he is said to possess the greatest pulling power of many animals, four times his own weight being considered a load well within his powers. Taking his average weight as half a hundredweight, this means that something like 5,000 tons are daily dragged about by canine labour in Belgium."

***

WE take the following from a contemporary :—

"One of the most amusing contributions to the new number of the *Windsor Magazine* is Mr. Barry Pain's journalistic tragedy, 'The Thirteenth Column.' It is the story of a general utility man, who is told off by a relentless editor to write the 'Fashions' article. It is impossible to convey exactly where the tragedy came in, without quoting from the article which wrecked a good all-round journalist's career. It sounds as sensible and intelligible as the majority of such articles :—'One of the best dressed women that I have seen there in the Park lately is unquestionably Lady B. She wore a coat and skirt of Irish guipure of a dull bronze colour, with tabs of eau-de-nil silk bordered with passementerie. The same colour was repeated in the accordion pleating on the pompom, and the whole was surmounted by a hat of vieux rose surah, trimmed with skunk."

As regards the passage quoted, it can, we think, be matched by an extract made at random from the *Bangádhip-parajaya*. The author of *Bangádhip* must have laboured under the idea that the more difficult and out-of-the-way the words are that a writer uses, the more dignified does his style become.

***

THE *Pioneer* concludes a somewhat discursive leader headed "Circumventing the Money-lender," thus :—

"We entirely sympathise with the Hon'ble Mohini Mohun Roy in his object; and we believe that the law of *damdupat* is a fair law if it could be enforced. But as the Hon'ble Mr. James pointed out it is not always practicable for the Courts to enforce this law. The Legal Member observed that the object of restraining hard and unconscionable bargains was very desirable; but that the English Court of Chancery had met with varying success in its endeavours to effect that object. 'Unless provisions in restraint of bargains between money-lenders and their debtors are very carefully worded indeed, they always tend to the injury of the debtor.' So long as full capacity to contract exists in the contracting parties and is recognised by the Courts, the parties themselves always have been able and, probably always will be able, to find a way of avoiding an usury law. We agree with Sir James Stephen in holding that the desired object can be accomplished, although we do not think it can be accomplished by the means proposed."

So, while sympathising with the Hon'ble Mohini Mohan Roy's object and, therefore, sharing with him all the hatred of unscrupulous money-lenders, the semi-official organ thinks that object is incapable of being accomplished by the means proposed. We have expressed the same opinion.

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IT is said that

"The present Mikado of Japan, who is forty-two years of age, and who ascended the throne in 1866, traces his descent back 2,555 years, when, according to native history, after endless ages passed in higher spheres the Imperial family began its earthly career with the first human monarch, Jimmu Temro. One hundred and twenty-one monarchs have reigned since then, including seven empresses. The average age of the first seventeen monarchs was over a hundred years, some exceeding one hundred and twenty, and one, immediately before the Christian era, lived one hundred and sixty eight years. The Emperor was often a mere infant in arms, who was discarded on reaching adolescence for another infant in arms, but he was always theoretically head of the State. Mutsu Hito, the reigning sovereign, was married at the age of sixteen to Haruko, the daughter of a noble, and two years older than himself, but the Prince Imperial and numerous surviving children are by other wives."

Perhaps, no people on Earth are so solicitous of tracing their genealogies to the remotest times as the Japanese, the Chinese, and the Hindus. Ask a Bráhman child as to how old is his family, the answer, carefully taught by parents, is invariably "as old as the Sun and the Moon."

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THE first section of the Madras Electric Tramways has been opened to traffic.

NOTES & LEADERETTES,

OUR OWN NEWS,

&

THE WEEK'S TELEGRAMS IN BRIEF, WITH OCCASIONAL COMMENTS

WHEN accepting the advice of the European Powers to renounce a portion of the provisions contained in the Treaty of Peace signed at Simonosaki, Japan stipulated herself to carry on the negotiations with China in a manner that would conciliate the Japanese demands. With the wishes of the Powers, Japan intends to withdraw her troops from the Chinese mainland gradually as the war indemnity is liquidated. The *Times* publishes a telegram from Kobe stating that the Japanese are excited and disappointed at abandoning the Liaotung Peninsula. The Ministers at the foreign legations are guarded. A special agreement between Japan and China fixes the terms for abandoning the Liaotung Peninsula. It declares that Japan has consented to the abandonment of Chinese territory on the continent in pursuance of advice proffered by the European Powers with the object of securing a permanent peace. Negotiations regarding the special agreement are proceeding. An agreement between Japan and the Powers has been concluded. Viscount Kibayama will be the first Japanese Viceroy of the Island of Formosa.

AFTER a prolonged and most acrimonious debate, the Reichstag has rejected the Government anti-Revolutionary Bill directed against the Socialists. It has also rejected the Government Bill for the taxation of tobacco. This action of the Reichstag will completely derange the Imperial Budget for 1895-96.

THE French Premier, speaking at Bordeaux, said that although France was engaged in hostilities in Madagascar she had to act in concert with the Great Powers. With regard to the Far East he referred to the increased friendship of Russia as a guarantee for the maintenance of peace in Europe.

THE French Budget for 1895-96 shows a deficit of fifty-five million francs. It is proposed to cover the deficit by the imposition of fresh taxes.

THE following are the principal points contained in the Note which was presented to the Sultan by the Ambassadors of Great Britain, France, and Russia regarding the reforms in Armenia:—The Powers veto the appointment of Valis. A third of the high posts among the officials to be held by Christians. The Porte to appoint a High Commissioner, not a European, to supervise the execution of the reforms. A Commission, composed of Mussalmans and Christians, to supervise the administration of the Armenian Provinces; the creation of Courts of Assizes; the regular inspection of prisons; the Kurds to be disarmed.

ANOTHER serious Anglo-French question has arisen in connection with the Niger territories. News has been received from the Lower Niger that a French expedition commanded by Captain Decœur has placed a fortified post at Bajibo, in Nupe, within the British frontier on the Lower Niger, which place has been in the Royal Niger Company's sphere since 1885. Advices received from the Middle Niger state that another expedition commanded by M. Ballot, the French Governor of Dahomey, in person, is marching through the Niger Company's territory to Sokoto, seeking to conclude treaties with the Chiefs owning allegiance to the British, constituting thereby a breach of the Anglo-French agreement of 1890.

IN the House of Commons, on May 10, Sir William Harcourt, in reply to a question, said that he was unable to name a day for resuming the debate on the motion for the appointment of a Standing Committee on Scotch affairs. Thereupon Sir Donald Macfarlane, member for Argyllshire, rose and said, that if there was any further delay regarding the matter, the Scotch members would have to reconsider whether they should support the Government any longer. The Chancellor of the Exchequer angrily retorted that it was entirely open to the Scotch members to reconsider their position.

THE Duke of York, who has now completely recovered from his late illness, will represent Her Majesty the Queen at Kiel, during the fêtes to be held on the occasion of the opening of the Baltic Canal by the German Emperor in June next.

THE House of Commons has approved of the imposition of the extra beer duty by a majority of twenty-four.

THE Imperial Government has declined to guarantee a portion of the Newfoundland debt, as Canada can ill afford just now to add to her financial burdens by assuming liability for the debt of Newfoundland. It is believed that the scheme for the incorporation of Newfoundland with the Dominion is doomed.

LORD Welby will be Chairman of the Royal Commission to enquire into military and civil expenditure in India. The Members of the Commission will include Mr. George Curzon, Sir Donald Stewart, Sir W. Wedderburn, Mr. Dadabhai Naoroji, Messrs L. Courtney and William Jackson, Sir Andrew Scoble, Messrs T. Buchanan, William Caine, Ralph Knox, and George Ryder. The terms of reference are—(1st) to enquire into the administration and management of civil and military expenditure in India; (2nd) apportionment of charge between the British and Indian Government.

THE Secretary of State for India has consented to receive a deputation of Lancashire experts as to the question of how the Indian duties can be made non-protective.

THE *Turkistan Gazette* is convinced that, owing to the friendship of Russia and Bokhara, portions of Darwaz, south of the Amu Daria, will be speedily evacuated, and hopes for an equally prompt evacuation of Shignan and Rosnan. This, the paper says, will materially strengthen the friendship between Russia, Great Britain, and Afghanistan.

MR. Lahouchere, speaking at a Radical meeting at Northampton, said that it was most desirable to dissolve the Imperial Parliament as early as possible, as the Liberals could not do much with a majority of nine.

LADY Elgin gave a Garden Party at Viceregal Lodge on May 9. The ladies far outnumbered the gentlemen.

THE Viceroy entertains old Etonians to dinner on June 4.

SRI Jasvatsingji has been installed Jam of Jamnagar. During the minority the State will be managed by the British Government in such a way, said Colonel Hancock, the Kathiawar Political Agent, while putting the Raja on the guddi, "as to give you a fair start when you come of age. By that time the railway will be finished, the State will be free from debt, and the State departments reorganized so as to render it easy for you to carry on the administration in a just and enlightened manner."

M. R. Ry. P. Ananda Charlu, Rai Bahadoor, has been gazetted an Additional Member of the Supreme Legislative Council. He was chosen by the non-official members of the Madras Council as their representative in the Governor-General's Council. But the election not being strictly according to the rules, he has again been selected. We give him a cordial welcome. He is one of our best men. Madras has been unfortunate in her representatives. Those elected before the Rai Bahadoor were not enabled by death or other causes to take any part in the deliberations of the Supreme Council. A highly honourable man, a true patriot and an able advocate, he is sure to give satisfaction. May he long be spared to his country!

THE acting Superintendent of Police in the Panch Mahals, in Gujerat, Mr. C. F. G. Lester, son of an old Bombay General, and nephew of Sir Edwin Arnold, was shot dead by his wife at Deagad. Mrs Lester, a daughter of Colonel Braham, is said to have committed the foul deed in consequence of domestic differences. In a letter Mrs Lester herself says that she shot her husband, as she could bear his brutality no longer. Pending enquiries, she was at first lodged in the Godhra Jail, but as there is no proper accommodation for Europeans, and as the heat within the jail is fearful, she was removed into the empty bungalow of the Assistant Collector.

MESSRS. Methuen & Co., the London publishers, would send their books to the *Academy*, but that journal would not review them. Messrs. Methuen then wrote to the editor complaining of the neglect. In reply they received a message which a clerk delivered, namely, "The proprietor wishes me to say that we do not review your books as you do not advertise in our paper, and as you do no business with us, we cease to do business with you." The publishers in reply have published both the letter and the message. Another free advertisement!

AS an example of what the Indian cooly can sometimes achieve, read the following:—

"An extraordinary feat of strength is reported to a mofussil paper as displayed at the East Indian Railway goods-shed in Delhi the other day by one of the coolies, a Poorbia Mussulman, of a short bulky build. A large box, 9 feet 6 inches in length, weighing 7 maunds 5 seers, had to be unloaded from a 'thaila,' and it took 12 men to do this. The cooly in question then had the box balanced on his back, and unassisted and alone carried it into the goods-shed and deposited it there in the presence of several Europeans."

A heavier weight was raised at the Howrah station some years back by a cooly. He is yet alive and is now a contractor for the supply of cooly labour to the Railway at Howrah and many private firms whose boats have to be loaded and unloaded at Howrah. The man earns from four to five hundred rupees a month when the season is brisk and is charitable. Although a Mussalman, he gives freely to Hindus for shrads and marriages.

EVEN Sen has his parasites. One of these is resolved to assert himself. As a ratepayer, although not resident, he claims to know more than "a rank outsider." Lookers on, however, it is said, see most of the game. As a proof of the confidence of the people of Santipore in his idol, he mentions that the Municipal Commissioners at a meeting passed a resolution "expressing the sense of the loss the Municipality has sustained by the transfer of Baboo Nobin Chunder Sen and voted him a portrait in recognition of his valuable services to the Municipality." The loss to the Municipality may not be incon

sistent with the gain to the people. He wants to know the name of the Civilian to whom Baboo Sen gave himself out as the Byron of Bengal. Without it he cannot accept the statement as correct Did he enquire of the Baboo himself and has he the authority of his denial? Has "A Riteprayer of Santipore" any reason to give for the speedy transfer of Mr. Sen? Another correspondent writes echoing the relief caused by the transfer.

ELECTIVE principle is a sickly plant even in its own home. Electioneering abuses are rampant and growing in England. It is not merit but money that wins. Except in rare notable instances, votes go by favour. Yet there are stringent rules to unseat members for delinquencies of their agents. In the abandon of representative government, there is no limit to practices to win an election. Free Britons have tired of the abuses lavished on opposing candidates. A Bill has been introduced in Parliament, in the Lower Chamber, to prevent the growing practice of making false statements regarding the personal character and conduct of a candidate. The Bill named the Corrupt Practices Act Amendment Bill has been read a second time. When we, in another capacity, advocated elective Municipalities for this country, we did not possibly imagine the degeneracy to which representative institutions would be brought down. Good men and true have been elbowed out by the intriguing and the unscrupulous. Honest capable men are obliged to hide themselves that their rivals in all senses, the self-seeking, may flourish. Municipal elections however, have generally not been unsatisfactory. At first truly representative men were returned. The degeneracy is of a later development. In the higher spheres, in the return of representatives for the Bengal Legislative Councils, the elections have not been on proper lines. In the first election by the University a catastrophe was barely averted In the present, hardly any attempt is made to return a proper representative. By way of compliment to him and to mark its sense of the acceptance, though on certain conditions, by Government, of the Prodigal returned, the Calcutta Corporation voted for the "Apostle of Self-Government in Bengal." There is an unholy compact to return him again His supporters make no secret that he seeks the second election that he might be returned to the Upper Chamber. It is on this account that the candidature of Dr Rashbehary Ghose from the Burdwan Division has been foully assailed. The knowing Bengal Council may prefer him to the other as its representative in the Supreme Council. Therefore he must not come in at all. The vernacular papers, especially one which professes to speak nothing but good but which has begun to deal in filth, have taken up the Apostolic cause. We only hope it will not, in its vehement advocacy, land itself in grief.

THE machinations against Dr. Rashbehary Ghose continue. Fresh charges have been preferred. They are—that he is no Congressist, that e had no sympathy with the movement against the Jury notification of ir Charles Elliott, that he has not, after the manner of a noted patriot, at no end of questions in Council, that he dances attendance on Europeans. He is not judged by only his public acts or omissions. His private conduct is dragged into the controversy. There is no uestion that by his abilities Dr. Ghose is fully competent to be a ember of the Legislative Councils. He has already proved his orth in them. That seems to be his chief disqualification. With o inclination to pass as a patriot, he did solid silent work, specially in the Upper Chamber. Those who know, know that the harges, if they can be of any value, against the Doctor, are baseess. He had been a delegate to, and had attended several sittings f, the Congress. He had also been free with his purse in its cause. With his other countrymen he had full sympathy with the movement or the withdrawal of the obnoxious jury notification. His detractors would be more correct in saying that he receives few, of any, visits t his house than that he pays court to the great. He is, indeed, o patriot, as Dr. Johnson defined the word. He makes no profesion of patriotism, nor makes it a cloak for self-interest. With o fuss about him and willing and capable of doing solid work for nly the approbation of his own conscience, Dr. Rashbehary Ghose s the fittest candidate. The Burdwan Division will serve its own nterests best by returning him as its representative.

THE Calcutta Corporation meets specially next Thursday to elect its epresentative. There is no chance of the name of the Vice-Chairman being proposed. The votes have all, we believe, been bespoken and secured for one or the other candidate.

THE accomplished Dewan of the Bhawal Raj, Babu Kaliprasanno Ghose, would have been a desirable candidate in the Dacca Division. His experience, in different lines, is great. He knows the Division very well and represents a class from which our representatives are not usually drafted. Though given to Thoughts in Solitude, he is *au courant* with the politics of the day. Every movement for the good of the country has his sympathy and support. He also had a good chance. We are sure Dacca and Barisal would have pronounced for him. We regret that domestic afflictions keep him away.

ONE Maharaja, two Rai Bahadurs and a European contest the honour for the Bhagalpur Division. Since the introduction of local self-government, Europeans have kept aloof from it. It is a triumph of that government that a European has offered himself a candidate.

NEXT Friday is Queen's Birthday. It will be observed the day after. We have ceased to have any loyal demonstrations to mark the day in Calcutta. For some time, except the firing of the loyal and royal salute, there is nothing to remind the residents that the Empress was born on the 24th May. Sir Henry Harrison, since the Municipal Commissioners were pleased to grant him a personal allowance of Rs. 500 a month, had instituted a Garden Party for that day. Mr. Lee could only keep it up for a year. This year there is to be a welcome departure. No official, high or low, will celebrate the birth. In honour of the day, Baboo Kally Prosono Dey, of the *National Magazine*, has issued invitations for an Evening Party to Europeans and Natives to be held on Friday, at the Star Theatre Pavilion All honour to him.

DURING 1894, the Chemical Examiner to Government analysed 192 samples of potable water. Altogether 197 samples were sent to him Of these 15 were from Municipalities, 105 from jails, and 77 from other Departments. Chemical analysis of water is also conducted by Mr Norman Rudolf in his Laboratory at Siwan in the district of Saran. Chairmen of Municipalities and district Officers have orders to send water for analysis to him. How many samples he examined we are not told. Of the samples sent to the Government Laboratory, Dr. Evans found 28 of them good, 83 fair, 34 indifferent and 47 bad. He remarks that hardly any of the waters are up to the European standard of purity, ammonia, both free and albuminoid, and nitrogen are present in large quantities, larger than would be passed for good drinking water. On this a contemporary remarks:

"In other words, the water supply is too frequently contaminated with sewage, a fact which accounts for much of the sickness which is usually attributed to climatic causes. The fact is eloquent of how much remains to be done in this direction, and should stimulate the movement that has at last begun to be awakened amongst the more enlightened sections of the Hindoo community, to do something themselves to improve the insanitary surroundings of village tanks."

It will not do to only "improve the insanitary surroundings of village tanks." The fact is, there is scarcely a populous village in Bengal where a large tank has been excavated within the last 25 years. Formerly, every rich Hindu spent a goodly portion of his wealth in excavating a large tank for the supply of water to his fellow-villagers. English education has so changed the people of this land that everything has come to be subordinated to the material interests of number one. A good mansion to live in, handsome conveyances, costly ornaments of gold and gems, a long train of servants, are now objects of primary concern with such Hindu gentlemen as succeed in amassing money. It was not so before To dig large tanks, to build serais, to dedicate temples, to establish *Atithsalas* for the feed of all comers, were then regarded legitimate and foremost objects of expenditure. In seasons of scarcity almost every zamindar caused large tanks to be excavated within his zamindary. One cowrie for one basket of earth raised, was the remuneration offered and accepted during the great famine of 1769-70. Most of the *Dighis* or *Dirghikás*,—large artificial lakes—that we now see almost silted up in many portions of Bengal, were excavated that year and owe their origin to such an exceptionally cheap rate of labour, besides the religious motives already adverted to. In some places, labourers consented to work for only their daily food. There were no roads on which they could work, no palatial mansions on

which they could be employed. The only form of public works in which thousands of men could be engaged was the excavation of those artificial lakes. Many of these, it is much to be regretted, have been allowed to silt up entirely or become very shallow. The present generation has done nothing to repair them or dig new ones. It is reaping the fruits of its own negligence. Fifty years ago, water was obtainable in every village in Bengal.

So useful were these tanks regarded in those days, that Maharaja Kirti Chandra of Burdwan is said to have pardoned a naib who had embezzled a large amount, for the man had devoted the whole of the sum in excavating a tank. The story is well worth recounting. The naib, an inhabitant of the Serampore Sub-division of the Hooghly District, seeing how great the want was of good water in his village, ran away from his charge with, as we have already said, a large sum of money. The Dewan brought the matter to the Maharaja's notice. The latter was surprised. The naib had all along borne a good character. The Maharaja could not believe that the man had actually become so wicked. He refused to take steps for the apprehension of the naib. Instructions, however, were issued for secretly inquiring as to the whereabouts of the naib and how he was occupied. The messengers returned and reported that the naib had employed a large number of labourers in excavating a very large tank. Maharaja Kirti Chandra did not interrupt the work. Some months after, the naib, through the urgent representations of the Dewan, was apprehended and brought to Burdwan. In the durbar he was asked by the Maharaja as to why he had embezzled so large a sum of Rupees. The man meekly answered,—"Had, cherisher of the distressed, I am guiltless! The money I took away, it is very true, but it was to excavate a tank in my native village. If your Highness enquires, you will learn that the tank, after excavation, has been dedicated in your Highness' name. A dozen temples for Siva have been commenced, but only six have been completed. Thousands of men are blessing your Highness day and night. The new tank holds a very large quantity of good water. Our maidens only, seeing that the temples will not be completed, are disconsolate, for the merit of presenting lighted lamps to Siva will not be theirs,—the merit which they had hoped to win." The Maharaja immediately ordered the necessary funds to be supplied to the naib for completion of the temples.

REIS & RAYYET.

Saturday, May 18, 1895.

A VIRGIN FIELD FOR HISTORICAL RESEARCH.

THE *Nineteenth Century* of February last contains an article headed "The Making of a Shrine," by Mrs. Wolffsohn. It is an interesting account of the origin and the remarkably rapid success of a Roman Catholic shrine lately set up near the site of the ancient Pompei which, after having remained buried under the lava of the Vesuvius for several centuries, has been lately exhumed and identified. If the world possessed similar histories of its other religious shrines, ancient and modern, such literature would be almost as interesting and instructive as the secular annals of the past that we possess. The tracing of the origin, progress and decay of political powers and institutions is no doubt of great importance. But hardly less so are similar enquiries with regard to religious institutions. The educational value of the history of great shrines, is very similar to that of secular histories. Unfortunately, the mistaken notions prevalent in the world about what is due to religion have made it almost a forbidden ground to the historian. We may criticise the movements of the mightiest monarchs and their highest officials. But the least comment on the actions of the priestly classes, involves the daring "heretic" in very serious risks.

The European nations have in recent times got some historical works regarding their church. Since, however, the introduction of Christianity, they have not had among them any prophet having independence enough to proclaim and preach a new faith. The result is that the ecclesiastical histories of Europe are confined to the events relating to the continuance of the Christian church under one form of headship or other. From the nature of his surroundings, it is exceedingly difficult for a European scholar to have any idea of the manipulations by which new religions are brought into existence, and successfully spread, or of the processes by which an ancient cult may be superseded by a more recent one. In fact, a European cannot ordinarily have any experience of the two most important periods in the life of a religion, namely, its infancy and its decline. The histories of the Christian church that Europe possesses have, therefore, only that value which a history of the Mogal Empire as it was in the 17th century, can possibly have. Gibbon has tried no doubt to throw some light on the causes of the rapid spread of Christianity. But the analysis that he has given of the circumstances under which the despised religion of the lower orders of the urban population of the Roman empire became the faith of princes and nobles, of philosophers and scientists, and at last succeeded in establishing the head-quarters of its priesthood in Rome itself, where for centuries its humble preachers were subjected to every species of persecution, seems to be very far from complete. At any rate, there is nothing in his great work to show what his ideas were regarding the true places of Christianity and Mahomedanism in the history of the theocratic art.

Whatever the value may be of the historical literature that the European nations possess about their religious institutions, there can be no doubt that, with respect to the origin and growth of our own cults and shrines, we have no record whatever that can, without a gross abuse of the name, be called history. According to the legends of the Puranas, some of our leading shrines have been in existence from the beginning of time, while the majority of the other great idols were miraculously discovered or conjured up by some great prophet. In some cases, the temples are said to have been erected in the course of a single night, through the agency of the celestial architect Visvakarman. Generally, the legends admit that, notwithstanding the idol's and idol-finder's claims to extraordinary powers, he had to depend entirely upon his followers for being provided with the funds for building its temple.

Whatever the desirability of a history of our ancient shrines, the materials for such a work are sadly wanting. There is inherent impossibility in collecting the facts, which tradition still records, about some of our modern shrines. Such a work might expose the author to a criminal prosecution, or, at any rate, would bring neither money nor popularity to him. But its value, for educational purposes, can hardly be over-estimated.

The small-pox plague which has been raging in Calcutta since last December, has given so great an

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impetus to the worship of Sitalá, that we should not be surprised if some new shrines to the deity have been set up, or some old and decaying ones invested with rejuvinescence, within the last few months. There has certainly been a marked tendency in that direction. Almost all the old Sitalá shrines are just now so flourishing, that new competitors are sure to be attracted to the field. The old Sitalás, which were never well-housed or well-clad, may now be seen in purple and brocade, and a great many of them are certainly about to have substantial brick-built temples. Such facts are, beyond doubt, worth recording, for, if neglected, some of these very Sitalás may, at some future time, claim to be in existence from the beginning of the world, or as having dropped down direct from heaven with a determination not to move to any other place.

Some of the Calcutta shrines, the very foundation of which is still well remembered by the old residents, are already on the way of putting forward such claims whose extravagance is no bar to their general recognition. There was a time when the floor of the inner sanctuary of one of these shrines was on a level with that of its outer portico, and at a height of about three feet from the level of the surrounding streets. One morning, in the year 1864, the neighbours and votaries were puzzled to find that it had sunk to the level of the ground outside. What explanation the high priest gave to enquirers at the time, we cannot say. But it requires no prophet to predict the legendary purposes that the hollow floor would serve hereafter. When the testimony about the true cause of the depression will cease to become obtainable by the death of the old men of the locality, the engineering of the temple is sure to be explained by the invention of a legend that the deity was miraculously discovered in her present position, and, as she was determined not to move, the discoverer had to build the temple for her, accommodating his plan to her inclinations.

When the actual facts regarding the original condition of the most revered objects of our worship are known, they are not always such as to inspire any man of common sense with much reverence. In fact, like most human beings, many of the idols, paintings and relics, which we are led to worship, have had their ups and downs in life. Before promotion to their present condition, some of them had to go through the most pitiable vicissitudes of fortune. In a town not far from Calcutta there is a famous image of Siva which, though now believed to have miraculous powers, used to be, not long ago, utilised by the boys of a neighbouring school as a stone for whetting their knives and pointing their pencils. It is also a well-known fact that the image of Adwaita in one of his most famous shrines was, in the beginning, only the wooden charioteer of a sacred car belonging to a local Raja.

In the very article under notice, regarding the origin of the new shrine at Pompei, it is stated that the picture representing the Madonna was originally the property of a nun at Naples, and that by a miscarriage of the arrangements made for its transport to Pompei it was carried thither in a dung cart. That was a sad fate, indeed, and in striking contrast to the high tide of fortune which it attained after its arrival at Pompei by such a conveyance. The story is a very interesting one, and we cannot resist the temptation of giving a part of it in the words of the fair writer. She says :—

"There is quite a little market held this beautiful November Sunday morning along the high road in front of the church of the Holy Rosary at Valle di Pompei.

Twenty years ago, this spot of land, wild and rough of aspect, held a small hamlet of scattered huts, called simply Valle, or The Valley; possessing a wayside tavern, and a half-ruined parish church. For many years the place had been noted for its brigands and robbers, and, after the year 1860, became famous as the haunt of the dreaded chief Pilone.

Much of the land had become the property of Countess de Fusco, the inhabitants began to neglect all religious rights and duties, and sank into a very barbaric state.

It was in October of that year [1872] that a native of Lecce, Don Bartolo Longo, practising as a barrister in Naples and married to the Countess de Fusco, went to Valle di Pompei on some business connected with his wife's estate.

During the course of the day Don Bartolo paid a visit to the parish priest, visited the rotten and small parish church, and learned that the greater part of the parishioners, numbering 1,200, never went to church and lived in a state of pitiable ignorance. Don Bartolo was struck with pity for the poor wretches, who could not even send their children to school. He frequently visited the place, and relates how one day, while walking in melancholy mood in a desolate spot, he was inspired by the conviction that there was no better way to save a sinner than by propagating the worship of Our Lady of the Rosary. He vowed to institute that worship in that desolate spot before he died. No sooner had the vow passed his lips than he felt a heavenly calm descend upon his spirit, and, as he heard the Angelus ringing, he knelt down and prayed, rising with the firm determination to fulfil his vow.

He began by visiting the scattered houses in the district, giving presents of rosaries and medals to the inhabitants. Most of the people had no idea of prayer, were incapable of repeating the Ave Maria, and seemed inaccessible.

But Don Bartolo soon discovered that they cherished a fond reverence for their dead.

Taking advantage of this pious sentiment in the people, Don Bartolo by 1874 had succeeded in forming a Confraternity of the Rosary, the members of which undertook the duty of following funerals and reciting the prayers.

Learning further from the parish priest that the people were very fond of fairs and festivals, games, wrestling matches and such like, Don Bartolo resolved to institute a festival on the feast of the Madonna of the Rosary in October, and to form a great lottery, the prizes of which, rings and ear-rings, should tempt the women of the neighbourhood to attend. He went to Naples and begged from his friends and acquaintance all kinds of medals, pictures of saints, rosaries, and statuettes, and, at the proper time, took them to Valle di Pompei, together with a hundred crucifixes such as hang at the heads of the beds in cottages.

He arranged a lottery at tickets of two soldi (less than a penny) each, the first five prizes to consist of objects in pure but thin Neapolitan gold. The other 800 prizes were formed of the medals, crosses, &c., which he had collected. He ordered a band of music from the town of Pagano, arranged that High Mass should be performed in the old church, and begged his own father-confessor to preach on the Rosary; there being no picture of the Virgin at Valle, he took there a small lithograph surrounded by the fifteen mysteries, which usually hung at the head of his own bed.

But on the day appointed a violent thunderstorm frustrated all his plans. The neighbouring populations and the aristocratic friends he had invited were equally prevented from attending.

Undismayed by this hindrance, Don Bartolo set to work to arrange another fair and lottery for the following year, to announce which he sent a peasant woman, notorious for her stentorian voice, to all the country-side, while he himself traversed the neighbourhood, collecting subscriptions either in money, corn, or cotton. The people responded to his efforts, interested themselves in his plans, and many women, unable to give anything else, parted with their gold necklaces or pearl ear-rings.

This time the festival took place with great success.

Don Bartolo now interested the higher clergy in his work, and a mission to Valle di Pompei was arranged.

In October 1875 great progress had been made. Already some pious person had presented the old church with a new altar, upon which was placed a statuette of the Virgin. That year's feast was more brilliant than before. So many persons crowded to the church that Mass had to be performed at a temporary altar erected out of doors, and the Bishop of Nolo administered the sacrament with great pomp. He urged Don Bartolo not to remain content with erecting an altar to the Madonna of the Rosary, but to build a church worthy to be her shrine, and advised his listener to commence a collection for the purpose of *one sou a month*, which no good Catholic, be he poor as he might, would refuse. He himself promised a donation of five hundred francs.

The subscriptions were now set on foot, and succeeded beyond expectation. Rich and poor, old and young, were solicited for one sou a month for the purpose of building a church. The clerical mission also did its work; the people were taught to pray. But,

according to the rules of ecclesiastical liturgy, the picture before which they prayed must be an oil-painting. Don Bartolo went to Naples with the intention of purchasing one at an antiquarian's shop, and was eagerly wishing to meet a certain Neapolitan friend who would help him to bargain, when the very man appeared before him. Together they ransacked the shops, but the price demanded was always too high. Time pressed, for the picture was wanted at Valle di Pompei for special prayers the very next day. At last Don Bartolo's friend remembered that he knew a nun who possessed an old painting of the Madonna of the Rosary, and the friends sought her out at Porta Medina. She still had the picture, but the paint was pealing off, and the figures were so coarse and vulgar that Don Bartolo cried out in disappointment. 'Don't hesitate,' said the nun, 'take the picture; it is good enough for the people to worship.' The picture was large, and now the trouble was how to convey it to Valle di Pompei in time. Don Bartolo remembered that a carrier from the place was in Naples and about to return. To him he confided the picture, himself starting later for Valle by train. When the picture at last reached that place, what was his dismay in finding that it had been brought on the top of a dung-cart? And when he presented it to the three missionaries and other clericals assembled, there was a general smile at the poor old thing, and it was cast into a corner behind the altar. Next day it was given to a painter who was sketching in Pompei, and restored to something like decency.

And now, the old picture having been placed on the altar, the rumour spread of a miracle having been performed by its means on a young girl in Naples, who, afflicted with epilepsy, had repaired to the Shrine of the Madonna of Lourdes in a church at Naples in vain, but had miraculously recovered her health on the very day of the placing of the picture of the Madonna of Pompei, to whom the sick girl's mother had made a vow.

The news spread like wild-fire; the shrine began to attract universal attention; pilgrims crowded to it, especially on the solemn festivals in May and October; princes, cardinals, priests, and even royal personages joined the Confraternity. Offerings arrived from all parts of the world; artisans and artists vied with each other in proposing to work gratis in decorating the future church, and shrines were erected to the Madonna of Pompei in other churches.

The day of the laying of the first stone of the new church at Valle di Pompei was superb. A tent was erected on the ground, containing an altar with the picture of the Virgin. The Bishop of Nola, attended by the long train of priests, performed Mass. The crowd of peasants was immense, and more than three hundred distinguished personages attended the ceremony.

On the anniversary of this day ten years later, a delegate from the Pope, Cardinal La Valletta, was able solemnly to consecrate the high altar of the Madonna of the Rosary in the new church. Leo the Thirteenth himself blessed the marvellous diadem of diamonds, sapphires and other precious stones that, in the Italian fashion, was placed on the surface of the picture in the spot it would have occupied had it adorned a statue. The Virgin has, besides, a necklace of brilliants forming the word Rosario. A shining star is on her brow; two rich solitaries form her ear-rings, and the rosary which she gives to St. Catherine, and that which the infant Jesus presents to St. Dominic, are also formed of diamonds. The Virgin's shoes are of gold and diamonds, her mantle is starred with them, and beneath the picture precious stones form the words *Ave Maria*."

The account given in the above extracts shows that Don Bartolo is a genius in his line, and that even our Bhakti Binods, ambitious of filching the credit of Navadwip by identifying the Mussalman village of Meahpore with the Mayapore of Chaitanyaite literature, might derive some valuable ideas from his *modus operandi*. Nevertheless, India is the original home of the art of floating shrines, and if the Neapolitan barrister were to come out here, he might also get some important hints for improving his programme. The modern method of advertising by printed circulars is very often useful enough for the purposes of the charlatan. But the old Indian methods of proclaiming the glory of a shrine are generally far more effective than placards, handbills and newspaper advertisements. The most important thing in establishing the reputation of a shrine, is to have within it a few living saints of a type well-known in this country. These must neither talk nor move, but remain in their position fixed and immovable as statues. In the ancient and well established shrines such men may be got simply for the privilege of sitting within the sanctuary. In the struggling stage, the "promoter" has to feed and to lodge them in the temple free of charge. Among the restless nations of Europe, it might be difficult to procure such men, and, if obtainable, it might not be possible to secure their service by giving them merely a dish of consecrated food. The result of their exhibitions, if continued for a few years, is tremendous, and the game is certainly well worth the candle. Another improvement that Don Bartolo's programme appears to be capable of, is the adoption of the Chaitanyaite method of influencing the mob by Nagar sankirtan or the patrolling of streets by strong parties of musicians. A few thoughtful men might look upon such processions as regular nuisances deserving to be put down by the strong arm of the law for the dissonance they create with their lusty lungs aided by brass gongs and shrill trumpets and earthen drums. But upon the mob their effect is simply maddening. They act like ocean waves dissolving in their progress the most refractory elements. The very *budmashes* of society and men about town may be seen to join such movements, each intent on the accomplishment of his own object.

The writer of the article under notice does not tell us what Don Bartolo's standing is as a barrister. From the account given of his zeal for the Madonna, it seems that, even if he has the learning and forensic skill of a great advocate, he can have very little time left for devoting to the service of human clients or to their mundane affairs. However that may be, the example that he has set might well be followed by a good many members of the same profession in this country. An Indian barrister might, with much more decency, adopt the rôle of a prophet or temple-promoter than that of a Moonsiff. The acceptance of a post in the subordinate Judicial service unmistakably implies failure in the bar. But the yellow garments of a religious mendicant cannot possibly lower his position in the eyes of his own countrymen. On the contrary, with a little tact, and by the publication of a few legends in the usual style, a barrister-Sannyasi might attain a position of far greater power and affluence than that of even the most successful members of his original profession. In any case, the change would bring him immediate relief by the curtailment of his expenses. A barrister, though unable to earn a penny, must live like a prince. As a prophet his expenses would be very nearly *nil*. That itself would be a great gain. Let him then attach himself to a newly set up shrine under the management of an appreciating promoter, and he would soon be surprised to find himself elevated to the rank of a Trailanga Swami, or, in time, to that of even a Chaitanya or Buddha. *Verbum sap sapienti.*

CONGRESS OF ORIENTALISTS.

I represented the Bengal Government, the Bengal Asiatic Society, and the Calcutta University, at the Tenth International Congress of Orientalists held at Geneva, in September, 1894, and the following notes and extracts from the diary kept during the meeting may, therefore, prove of interest and value. It will be seen from the extracts from the diary that the thorny question of transliteration was attacked by a strong committee of the *savants* present, and at last a scheme (admittedly a compromise) has been adopted for general use over the civilised world. It may be hoped that uniformity will, in future, exist in the transcription of Oriental languages by scholars of all nations. Although not a member myself of the committee, I was in constant friendly communication with its members, and was examined as a witness, or, perhaps more accurately, was allowed to plead the cause of India before it. I am glad to be able to state, as the direct result of my efforts, that a scheme has been adopted which can be accepted without difficulty not only by Indian scholars, but also for the purposes of ordinary common life. The system originally proposed and half adopted, though admirably scientific, and pre-

ferable from a scholar's point of view, had no chance of being accepted for general use in India. Now, however, the needs of Hindustani, Hindi, and other modern Indian languages have been considered, and very few and unimportant changes in the Jonesian system at present in use will be required.

Another subject of considerable interest to the Indian public was discussed by the Congress. I allude to the present uncared-for condition of the Asoka inscriptions, and to the efforts which the Trustees of the Indian Museum are making for their preservation. In connexion with this, a resolution was passed by the Congress thanking the Trustees for their action, and urging the importance of the matter upon the attention of the Government of India. As philological Secretary and Delegate of the Asiatic Society of Bengal and as a Trustee of the Indian Museum, I was enabled to give the Congress accurate information concerning the subject. The resolution was the result of important speeches by three of the greatest authorities on Indian epigraphy now living---Dr. G. Buhler of Vienna, M. E. Senart of Paris (both of whom have made a special study of the Asoka inscriptions) and Dr. Burgess.

In the matter of social arrangements, nothing more cordial can be conceived than the welcome accorded to those assembled, not only by the President of the Congress, but by the Canton and by the town of Geneva, as well as by the private inhabitants of the neighbourhood. Almost every day while the Congress lasted there was an excursion, a garden party, or a dinner, and, although the hospitality was shown on the widest scale, each guest somehow felt that he was receiving the personal attention of his host in a manner as flattering as it was gracious. It must not, however, be imagined that the Congress was a mere round of festivities. A great deal of important and solid work was got through. But this hospitality happily forwarded another of the great objects of these Congresses, the bringing together into personal intercourse of scholars who, but for them, could never meet, and who have hitherto communicated with each other only by correspondence, or, perhaps, by somewhat heated polemics. Putting the public sectional papers to one side, many disputed points were discussed in friendly conversations, and many scholars found that, after all, they did not differ so widely from their *confrérés* as they had imagined.

EXTRACTS FROM THE DIARY.

I arrived in Geneva on Sunday, the 2nd of September. On Monday evening, the 3rd, there was an informal *réunion* at the Hotel National, where all the members, who had by that time arrived, renewed old acquaintances and made new ones.

The formal opening of the Congress took place in the *Aula* of the fine University buildings at 10 A. M. on Tuesday, the 4th September. The proceedings commenced with a short speech from Colonel Frey, President of the Swiss Confederation, and ex-Honorary President of the Congress, in which he welcomed the foreign members in the name of Switzerland. He was followed by Mr. Richard, President of the Council of the Republic and Canton of Geneva, and Honorary President of the Congress who welcomed us in the name of the former body. M. Naville, the learned Egyptologist, the President of the Congress, then gave his presidential address. He gave a rapid summary of the history of Oriental studies in Geneva, and maintained that one of the great features of modern discoveries was the close connexion which existed between the ancient civilisations of the world. He made special reference to the intimate relations which have lately been found to have existed between the civilisations of Greece, Egypt and Nineveh. He thanked the Federal and Cantonal authorities for the support which they had lent to the Congress, the sovereigns and members of sovereign families who had accepted the titles of Patrons and Honorary Vice-Presidents, and finally the *savants*, who had responded in such large numbers to the invitation of the Committee of Organisation. M. Maspero in the name of the Government of France, Lord Reay in the name of his fellow-countrymen, Professor Windisch in that of the German scholars, Count de Gubernatis in the name of Italy, and Ahmed Zeky in the name of the Khedive, wished success to the Congress, and thanked Geneva for its hospitality. A number of presentations of Oriental works were then made to the Congress by authors, by learned societies, and by Governments. A committee to settle a uniform system of transliteration to be adopted by all Oriental Societies and by Oriental scholars of all countries was then appointed. The members were Messrs. Socin, Barbier de Meynard, de Gœje, Plunkett, Lyon, Buhler, Senart, Windisch, and de Saussure. The proceedings terminated at mid-day with the appointment of the Consultative Committee.

The members of the Congress divided themselves in the afternoon into the following sections :---I. India---President, Lord Reay ; Vice-Presidents, Messrs. Weber of Berlin, and Buhler of Vienna. Aryan Linguistics---President, Signor Ascoli ; Vice-Presidents, Messrs. Breal and Schmidt. II. Semitic Languages (non-Musalman)---President, M. Kautzsch ; Vice-Presidents, Messrs. J. Oppert, Tiele, and Almkvist. III. Musalman Languages---President, Mr. Schefer ; Vice-Presidents, Messrs. de Gœje, Goldziher, and Sachau. IV. Egypt and African Languages---President, M. Maspero ; Vice-Presidents, Messrs. Lepage, Renouf, and Lieblein. V. The Far East---President, M. Schlegel ; Vice-Presidents, Messrs. Codier and Valenziani. VI. Greece and the East---President, M. Meeriam ; Vice-Presidents, Messrs. Perrot and Bikelas. This was a new section, opened for the reasons given in M. Naville's presidential address. VII. Oriental Geography and Ethnography-- President, Professor A. Vambery, Vice-Presidents, Prince Roland Bonaparte, and M. de Claparede. This also was a new section.

Section I. (India).---This section held seven sittings, and among the subjects of interest may be mentioned the following :---

(*a*) Professor Weber spoke in moving terms on the late regretted death of Prof. Whitney, the great American Sanskritist. On the motion of Lord Reay, the President of the section, a message of condolence was sent to the widow of the deceased scholar.

(*b*) M. Senart laid before the members present some photographs of inscriptions lately discovered by Major Deane in Afghan territory. They were in an unknown character and had not yet been deciphered. Rubbings of these inscriptions were exhibited at a meeting of the Asiatic Society of Bengal some months ago.

(*c*) Mr. Cecil Bendall showed rubbings of a short inscription in the Indian Museum. The inscription is interesting, as being written in the somewhat rare "wedge-headed" characters hitherto only found in Nepal, and was a unique example of an epigraph couched in literary Pâli. It formed a portion of the collection made by Mr. Broadley in Bihar.

(*d*) Professor H. Oldenberg read a paper on the Vedic religion, in which he endeavoured to distinguish the mythical, the popular, the Indo-European, the Indo-Iranian, and the Indian elements of the Vedas. He maintained that Varuna, (the god of the ocean), was primitively a lunar deity. This paper provoked somewhat lively criticism on the part of Dr. Pischel, the leader of the Euhmeristic School of Vedic scholars.

(*e*) Professor von Schræder read an important paper on the Kathaka recension of the Yajur Vêda, its manuscripts, its system of accentuation, and its relationship with the works of the Indian Grammarians and Lexicographers. A manuscript of the work recently found by Dr. Stein in Kashmir has revealed many peculiarities, and has enabled Dr. von Schræder to recognise several allusions to the work in the *sûtras* of Pânini.

(*f*) Professor Leumann gave an interesting account of the Jaina Avasyaka, more especially of the two first parts of that work,---the *Samâyika*, a kind of prose creed, and the *Chaturvimsatistava*. He presented a facsimile of a manuscript of this work, which he intends to publish by subscription. Professor Weber drew attention to the great antiquity and importance of the *Samayika*. The members present congratulated Prof. Leumann and wished him every success in his enterprise.

(*g*) A short paper was read by Dr. Pfungst on "Esoteric Buddhism," which he described as based on ideas held by a number of incompetent persons. Messrs. Kuhn, Weber, Leumann and Bühler, etc., cordially agreed with Dr. Pfungst and the so called system was denounced on all sides as *ein vollständiger schwindel*. Dr. Pfungst proposed that the section should pass a formal resolution to that effect, but this did not meet with the approval of the *savants* present, as the general opinion was that the subject was beneath the cognisance of scholars. The remarks of Prof. Weber on the political importance of the movement were specially noteworthy, as showing the close interest taken in Indian affairs by German scholars.

(*h*) Mr. Bhownaggree, the Delegate of the Maharaja of Bhavnagar, presented three communications--- one by Mr. J. N. Unvala on *Zoroastrianism*, one by Mr J J Kanta on *The Philosophical Schools of India*, and one by Shekh Muhammad Isfahani on *Sufism*. He presented to the Congress a handsome volume of Sanskrit and Prakrit inscriptions existing in the Bhavnagar State published at the expense of the Maharaja and concluded by reading a work by Mr. S D. Bharucha on *The Persian Dénatir*.

(*i*) Dr. Bühler made an important communication regarding the well known Asoka inscriptions of India. The historical and linguistic value of these ancient monuments cannot be overstated. Nevertheless, they are lying exposed to the weather, and within recent years have suffered considerable injuries both from that source and from iconoclasts or relic-hunting tourists. They are also inconveniently situated, some in the extreme North-West, others in Orissa, others in Maisur, others in Guzerat, others in Central India, and others again in Nepal. Even when approached, some of them are so placed that they cannot be read without using scaffolding. I was enabled to report to the Congress that, to remedy this state of affairs, the Trustees of the Indian Museum had offered, if funds were made available, to take facsimile casts of all these inscriptions, and to form an Asoka gallery in their building, where these casts could be collected and made accessible to students. Messrs. Bühler, Weber, Burgess, Senart, Bhownaggree, and Lord Reay, all spoke warmly in support of this proposal, and the following resolution, which was subsequently adopted by the Congress as a whole, was passed by acclamation :---

"Que l'administration du Musée Indien de Calcutta sera remerciée, au nom du Congrés, des efforts qu' elle fait pour la préparation de moulages des inscriptions d' Asoka ; et que le Gouvernment de l'Inde et les Gouvernments qui en dépendent seront priés, au nom

du Congrés, d'adopter les mesures de préservation et de reproduction de ces monuments, proposées par la dite administration."

(*i*) Count de Gubernatis presented some interesting notes on the influence of the Indian tradition on the representation of Hell in the poetry of Dante and on the frescos in the Campo Santo at Pisa.

(*k*) Professor Sylvain Levi, one of the most rising of the younger school of Sanskrit scholars in Paris, and who is one of the few who knows at once Sanskrit, Tibetan, and Chinese, gave a most interesting account of a Sanskrit poem by Harsha Charita of Kasmir, discovered by him in a Chinese version of the Buddhist Tripitaka. Although in Sanskrit, the whole was written in Chinese characters, and besides its intrinsic value, it gives us information of the greatest practical importance as to the system adopted by the Chinese in transliterating Indian words into their character. The lecturer illustrated this by applying the results obtained by him to some doubtful names of peoples mentioned by Hiuen Tsiang.

Section *Ibis.* (Aryan Linguistics).---Few papers in this section were of interest to Indian students.

Most interest was excited by Prof. J. Schmidt's paper on the vocalic *r. l. m. n.*, the existence of which in the original Indo-Germanic language has been asserted by the new school of comparative philologists, headed by Prof. Brugman. Professor Schmidt, representing the older and more conservative school, strongly combated the existence of these vowels. His arguments are too technical to reproduce here, but they were listened to with great attention, and the reading of his paper and the ensuing discussion took up the whole of one sitting, the latter being continued on the following day.

Professor Leumann read a short paper on the exchanges of forms such as khid and khad in the same root in the Vedic language, in connexion with the presence or absence of prefix, and with accentuation.

Professor Wackernagel read a paper on the place of Sanskrit in modern philology. He combated the opinions of those who would diminish the linguistic importance of that language. He pointed out the special importance of the knowledge which we possess of the different periods in the history of the language from the Vedic times down to the Sanskrit of the *Renaissance*. Moreover, some peculiarities of Sanskrit syntax could be used to explain certain obscure phenomena in allied languages. He finally defended the accuracy of the Hindu grammarians against the assaults which have been made against them of late years.

At the first meeting of this section Signor Ascoli lamented the deaths of Professors Whitney and Schweizer-Sidler, and in this he was followed by M. Bréal and Prof. Weber.

Section II. (Semitic, non-Musalman languages).---As might be expected nothing of interest to Indian scholars took place in this section. Considerable interest was excited by the presentation by Doctor Bullinger of a copy of the new edition of the Hebrew Bible, just completed by Dr. Ginsburg. Mrs. Lewis gave an account of two Palestinian Syriac Lectionaries and of a Syriac manuscript of the gospels discovered by her at Mount Sinai; this also excited much interest. Professor Haupt made a learned communication on the situation of the Paradise of the Bible, and was not able to locate it in any definite place. Dr. Cast contributed an interesting printed essay on the ancient religions of the world before the Christian era, and M. Halévy maintained the importance of Assyriological research in connection with sound Biblical criticism.

Section III. (Musalman languages).---The proceedings commenced with a special mention of the loss of Prof. Robertson Smith, made by Prof. Goldziher, and the same scholar at a subsequent meeting read an important paper entitled "Observations on the primitive history of poetry among the Arabs." It is thus summarised in the *Proces Verbal*;---"Poetry began with magic incantations. The Arabic poet is first of all an enchanter. His name, *shair*, the knower, is identical with the Hebrew *yid' oni*. The principal duty of the poet was to injure the enemies of the tribe by magic formulas. We find the most ancient example of this function of a poet in the Old Testament, in the history of Balaam. Professor Goldziher endeavoured to reconstitute these formulas, as they were amongst the ancient Arabs, and shewed that their form was that of the saga, in which metre was a later development. In the course of centuries these magic formulas gave rise to satirical poetry, the primitive recitation of which was accompanied by various external gestures. The old terminology of Arabic poetry has preserved many traces of this origin. For instance, the term *kasîja* of which the original meaning is "formula over-whelming the head of the adversary."

Professor D. Margoliouth described the correspondence of Ind-al-athir al-Jazari, preserved at the Bodleian Library. These letters are dated from 621 to 627 A. H.

M. Grünert gave an account of Dr. Glaser's recent discoveries in Arabia, and a valuable paper was read by Dr. Horn on his discoveries in Persian and Turkish in the Vatican library. Dr. Seybold read a paper on the Arab dialect spoken at Grenada, pointing out how much still remained to be done for the accurate study of the Moorish *régime* in Spain.

Section IV. (Egypt and African languages).---The chief papers were from Prof. Piehl on Egyptian Lexicography and from Drs. Hess and Krall on a Demotic work discovered in the Rainer collection. Much interest was likewise excited by the report from M. de Morgan of his discoveries in Egypt.

Section V. (The Far East).---A huge rubbing of an inscription in six languages found at Kiu-Yong-Koan, to the north of Pekin, was exhibited by M. Chavannes. Dr. J. P. N. Land gave a paper on the music of Java, which seems to shew a curious analogy to the elements from which counterpoint was developed in the West, though the tonal basis is quite different. Dr. Waddell's paper on a Mystery-play of the Tibetan Lamas was read for him, and an important communication was made by Prof. Radlov on his discoveries and readings of inscriptions from Central Asia, near Lake Baikal. This paper was the great event of this section of the Congress. Professor Schlegel read a paper, to which ladies were specially invited, on the social position of Chinese women.

10. *Section VI.* (Greece and the East), and *Section VII.* (Oriental Geography and Ethnology).---These sections were not largely attended, nor were the papers read of interest, except to specialists in the subjects dealt with. In neither of them had any of the papers reference to India.

11. The Congress was formally closed at 9 A. M. on Wednesday, the 12th of September. At the final general meeting several resolutions were adopted, after having passed through the ordeal of the Consultative Committee. Amongst them may be mentioned the resolution regarding the Asoka Inscriptions, and one embodying the results of the labours of the Transliteration Committee. It is hoped that a scheme of transliteration has at length been adopted, which can be accepted in all countries, and by scholars of all nationalities. ---Mr. G. A. Grierson in the *Indian Antiquary*.

GRANNY GORTON'S BIRTHDAY.

SATURDAY, January 21st, was a great day in Central Village, in the State of Connecticut, in America. On that day Mrs. Jonathan Gorton was 100 years old and formally received her friends, of whom hundreds were present. She wore her best black silk gown, with a rose in the bodice. The venerable lady was seated in a comfortable armchair on a platform in the best room of her house. Then the train of callers filed through, each and all shaking hands with her. "Granny Gorton, as she is called, is a trim little body and very nimble on her feet. There was never anything ailed her, she says, and, except that her eyesight isn't quite so good as it used to be, she is as active as any woman of 50.

Why has Granny Gorton lived so long? Why is she so active now? She lets out the secret herself when she says, "There was never anything ailed me." That's it, and all of it.

People who live 100 years are not so very rare. The deaths of 45 such were reported last year in England—22 men and 23 women. Yet, compared to the multitudes who die, these are nothing—nothing. Can we not keep things from ailing us, and so live long as Mrs. Gorton? Yes, if we will take the trouble to do it! Men and women 100 years old, still vigorous and clear-headed, should be a sight so common as not to be remarked, and will be yet in the future. Why not so *now*? "Ask yourself the question," as the boatmen say down on Deal beach.

Here's how it is: A woman's tale. She says she fell ill when a girl of about 15. She lost her appetite, had pains in the sides and chest, frequent headaches, and was often obliged to lie down on the couch and rest. All this didn't promise long life, did it? No; it was a bad start.

Well, she got worse instead of better. She was often sick, vomited her food, and spitting of a sour fluid. For five years she went on this way. This brings us to October, 1881. She was then in service as parlour-maid at Leamington Hastings, Warwickshire. Here she suffered from constant sickness, retching, and heartburn. The chest pains were so bad as to bend her two double. No position that she could take relived her. Her stomach was so tender and sore that everything she ate pained and distressed her. For months and months she only took liquid food—milk and beaten eggs, and so on.

She got weaker and weaker every day, so she says. Of course; how else could it be? A doctor at Rugby told her she had "ulceration of the chest," which she didn't at all. What is "ulceration of the chest?"

He gave her medicines and advice, but she grew no better on that account. This young lady was now about 20 years old, with a poor outlook for ever being much older. She didn't expect it, nor did her friends. Then another doctor, being consulted, said "ulceration of the chest," like his medical brother at Rugby. Both wrong.

"After Six months' medical treament" she says, "I gave up my situation and returned to my home at Buxton Lamas, Norfolk. This was in June, 1882. Then I was taken so bad I had to take to my bed. My mother thought I was in a decline."

Now, the word "decline" means consumption, as we all know; a disease common in England and incurable everywhere. Thousands of bright girls and young men "decline" into their graves every years in this populous island. Sad enough it is to see.

Well, at this point her good and wise mother interfered in her daughter's case. She gave the doctors the go-by and sent to Norwich for some bottles of Mother Seigel's Curative Syrup. In two weeks the young patient began to feel better, and in three months she got a new situation and went to work.

"Since then, fifteen years ago," she says, "I have kept in better health than ever before in my life, thanks to Seigel's Syrup. Yours truly, (Signed). (Mrs.) SARAH ELEANOR BAKER, 8, King's Street, Church Road Tottenham, near London, September 30th, 1892."

A dozen words more and we're done. Mrs. Baker's ailment was indigestion and dyspepsia, nothing else, and quite enough. The "ulceration" was inflammation of the inner coating of the stomach, a symptom of the disease. We wish her a long and happy life, and merely add that if all her sex could avoid or cure this one trouble most of them might live to be as old as Granny Gorton.

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AND

Review of Politics, Literature, and Society

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Reis and Rayyet

(PRINCE & PEASANT)

WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

VOL. XIV. CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, MAY 25, 1895. WHOLE NO. 676.

CONTEMPORARY POETRY.

THE PASSING OF MUHAMMAD, PROPHET OF ARABIA.

A DRAMATIC SKETCH BY SIR EDWIN ARNOLD.

(Concluded from page 230.)

MUHAMMAD— Ayesha ! Ayesha !
Hath yet Osâma marched ?

AYESHA— My Lord ! sweet Lord !
He stands without, waiting to speak farewell.

MUHAMMAD—Cover your faces, then, and bid him come.
(OSAMA *enters, and, kneeling by the couch, kisses the sick man's face.*)

OSAMA—Prophet ! how fierce a fever burneth thee !

MUHAMMAD—I swear by Him in whose hand lies my life,
There suffereth no believer but his woes
Cause sins to shed away, as the hot wind
Strips dead leaves off, that new green leaves may grow.
I, here consuming, cheat my fever's flame
Praising the Lord : but thou, why tarriest thou ?
Smite me the unbelievers ! Fall at dawn
Upon those dogs of Obna ! Let attack
Sound the first tidings of thee ! Send forth scouts,
And Allah give thee victory ! Guide my palm
That I may lay it on thy head, and leave
A blessing there. Go in God's peace !
(OSAMA *departs.*)
My girl !
Where is that gold I gave into thy hands ?
Part it among the " people of the Bench,"
Heaven's poor ones.

AYESHA— Master ! 't is the last we have :
We owe for wood and sesamum.

MUHAMMAD— Give ! Give !
That were ill done if I should meet my Lord
With dinars in my hands. Maimuna ! reach
My izar down. I hear the muezzin
Calling to prayer ! *Ya ! ya ! Ash 'had do an La illah 'l-lul-la-ho.* Ye faithful ! know
There is no God save God : *hya ul-as-salaat !*
Come unto prayer ! Nay, nay ! I have not force ;
I cannot stand ; this fever burns my brain !
Lay me once more upon the camel-skin.

AYESHA—Sweet Lord ! Thou doest ill to vex thy heart.
Enough is wrought. Ah, rest ! Saith not the Book :
" We have forgiven to thee all thy sins,
The former and the latter " ?

MUHAMMAD— Ayesha !
Except God's mercy cover with me grace,
I that am called the Prophet of the Lord—
I shall not enter into Paradise !
Hath yet Osâma marched ? I cannot ease
Of this fierce aching till I hear his drums.
Oh, set the door wide back. I faint ! I faint

MAIMUNA—Make wet his holy lips with date-water,
Zeinab ! Fan quickly, Fatma ! Ah, he swoons !
Our Master's eyes are shut. He hath desired
Too ardently to lead this evening prayer.

AYESHA—'T was Monday's Azan brought him to such poin
Of mortal feebleness.

ZEINAB— I did not know.
How fell that, Abu Bekr's daughter?

AYESHA— Weak—
Though not, as now, to seeming death—he lay
And I, who oft before in time of strait
Heard him ask Allah for deliverance,
Knelt heartsick by the bed, because he prayed
Saying, " Oh, soul ! my soul ! why seekest thou
Another refuge than in God alone ?"
For then first did he no more crave to live.

ZEINAB—Inshallah !

AYESHA— But the morning broke, rose and gold,
And the cool air was like a spring to drink,
While on the ways the footfalls of the folk
Made clatter, and the pigeons on the roof
Cooed, and the well-ropes creaked, awakening him
So, stronger for his sleep,—and hearing then,
As now, the muezzin,—he would arise
And gird himself to go. My father served
Imam that day, and told us what befell.

ZEINAB—Impart it, sister !

AYESHA— All the mosque was filled
To the corner flag-stones, and the first rakaat *
Was finished, and the people stood to make
The second form, when our Lord entered in,
His arm about the neck of Abbas' son.
Then, in the house of God, the weakness went ;
Glad grew his face ; his wan lips smiled ; he said
Softly to Fadhl : " Allah granteth me
Cooling of eyes by this good breath of prayer."
And the folk parted on the right and left
To make way for him to the mimbar-rail,

* Prostration.

Subscribers in the country are requested to remit by postal money orders, if possible, as the safest and most convenient medium, particularly as it ensures acknowledgment through the Department. No other receipt will be given, any other being unnecessary and likely to cause confusion.

Where Abu Bekr would have yielded place
But our Lord motioned "No," and on the mats
Sate till my father ended morning prayer.
Then he arose, and while the eyes of men
Fed on his looks, and eager fingers caught
His robe's hem to fond lips, he cried aloud,
The fever crimson in his cheek, his mouth
Dry with the blast of death, and this dear brow
Shadowed with Azrael's overhanging wing!
Yes—Abu Bekr said—he gazed around,
And spake: "Men of Medina, where I lived
Coming and going, testifying God,
I shall die soon! I pray ye, answer me:
Is there among ye here one I have wronged?
I have borne rule, judging in Allah's name
That am a man, and sinful. Have I judged
Unrighteously, or wrathfully, or pressed
Too hard in the amend? Let who saith 'Yea'
Make his 'Yea' good before the people here,
And I will bare my back that he may smite.
I have borne testimony for the Truth,
Not sparing sinners. Speak, if there be one
Wronged by mine own misdoing. Let him shame
His Prophet now telling the ill I wrought
Before the assembly. I have gathered dues:
Declare if I defrauded any here
Buying or selling."
And no answer came,
Except the noise of sobs and weeping men
Because our Lord spake thus.
But one arose,—
A hamal,—with his cord across his back,
And porter's knot (Zeinab! thou knowest him:
'T is Hassan, from the last shop in the lane
Behind the mosque), who cried: Abdullah's son!
Three silver pieces owest thou to me
For wood I bore thee after Ramadhan"
And softly said our Lord: "Good friend! much thanks
Because thou didst demand thy money now,
And not before the judgment-seat of God.
Ill is it if men thither carry debts."
Therewith he paid that debt, kissing the hand
Wherein the dirhams dropped; and so came home
To lay his head upon my lap—my lap!
But, Zeinab, look! Maimuna, look! Our Lord
Stirreth anew! What saith he? Let me come!
Ayesha's ear shall know.

(*Kneeling at the bedside*)

'T is Ayesha
Harkens, dear Master!

MUHAMMAD— Give me drink, my girl!
Hath yet Osâma marched? Be those his drums?
I die—at last I die! Breathe on my eyes
And chafe my hands. Well wot I that I die.
Listen! this for thine ear—for thee alone:

(*He speaks low to* AYESHA.)

Three days agone, Allah's high messenger
Came to me,—Gabriel,—and he asked of me:
"Servant of God! how is it with thee here?"
"Trouble is with me, and sore agony,"
Replied I. Then he spake, "A little while
Have patience"; and departed. Once again
With selfsame speech he came, inquired, and I
With the same words made answer. And again,
Even now, whilst ye did watch, th' archangel stood
Here, in thy room,—another shining one
Behind him,—and he said: "Servant of God!
This is the lord of death, great Azrael.
He hath not sought before from any man
Leave to come in, and never afterward
Shall seek from any: but to-day he stands
Waiting thy pleasure. Suffer that he come."
Then spake I, "Enter, Allah's messenger!"
And Azrael said: "Muhammad, I am sent
To take thy soul, if so thou wilt; or else,
If so thou wilt, to leave thee whole again.
I that command, am at command of thee."
Whereon, a little pondering, I was 'ware
Of Gabriel whispering, "Verily, our Lord
Desireth thee." And thereupon I spake:
"Do thou the will of Allah, Azrael!"

ZEINAB—What saith he, Ayesha?

AYESHA— Be still, be still!—
O Prophet of the Lord! Ah, Master, stay!

MUHAMMAD—Nay! take thy lips away—they cannot help.
Read, if thou canst, my Sura writ for death.
Kiss me no more, I say,—Azrael's mouth
Is on my lips. O Allah, pardon me!
Join me with the companionship on high!
Hist! I see Paradise! O Gabriel, give
Thy hand a little more. I testify
There is no God but God!

(*He dies.*)

AYESHA— Now, women cry!
Gone! our resource, our glory! *Wel-wel-eh!*
Our Lord is dead and gone! Ah, *Wel-wel-eh!*

—*The Century Illustrated Monthly Magazine.*

WEEKLYANA.

IT is some time that a chemist had extracted a certain quantity of gold in each ton of water in the ocean. Fresh water contains no such auriferous matter, but it is the salt waves commonly called "the briny" that are full of it. The latest announcement is that there are about 10,000,000 tons of gold in the various oceans, not taking into account the icebergs around the North and South Poles. The annual output of gold from the mines on dry land is estimated at 200 tons per annum. How enormous must the yield be from the briny waves! You may calculate that treasure to any figure, but to what purpose The sea holds richer gems in its treasure-caves and cells.

***

AT Sotheby's the autograph manuscript of the Rev. Gilbert White's "Natural History and Antiquities of Selborne, in the County of Southampton," was purchased by Mr. Pearson for 294*l*. The MS. contains many passages not printed in several editions, and has never been out of the possession of the lineal descendants of the author.

***

RIO DE JANEIRO being subject to yellow fever and open to maritime attacks, the Brazilian Government had appointed a Commission to choose a desirable site for the capital. The Commission recommends a plateau between the parallels of 15 deg. 40 sec. and 16 deg. 8 sec South, and the meridians of 49 deg. 30 sec. and 51 deg. West. It is over 4,000 feet above the level of the sea, the temperature resembling that of middle France, with plenty of water for agriculture, and no yellow fever, the distance from the coast being only 9 hours' journey by rail. Supposing the selection is perfect, has the Commission calculated the cost of removal, let alone other matters to be considered in this connection?

***

IN aid of the education of poor but respectable Bihar Mahomedan students, Mussamat Kaziman, widow of the late Kazi Syed Reza Hossein, Khan Bahadur, of Patna, has offered to create an endowment of Rs. 10,000. One-half of the proceeds of the sum is to go to the Patna Collegiate School, the other half being intended for the Mahammadan Anglo-Arabic School, Sadikpur. The trustees will settle the amounts to be awarded to any student. The widow will manage the endowed property till her death when the Bengal Government will assume the trusteeship.

***

THE Hon'ble Mr. C. C. Stevens has obtained one month's leave from the 27th May. During his absence, the other Member, the Honorable Mr. D. R. Lyall will alone represent the Board of Revenue, that is doing the duties of the other in addition to his own.

THE customs duty of 5 per cent. *ad valorem*, on spikes (commonly known as dog spikes) of iron and steel, other than the spikes mentioned in No. 93 of Schedule IV., has been reduced to one per cent. *ad valorem*.

***

IN November, there will be an examination of locally selected candidates for the Bengal Pilot Service. At the same time, it is announced there will be only one vacancy.

***

FURTHER results of the Medical Examinations of the Calcutta University shew that five students have passed in the second Division of the Preliminary Scientific M. B. Examination. Seven who failed at the Preliminary Scientific M. B. and combined Preliminary Scientific and first M. B Examinations having attained the standard of the Preliminary Scientific L. M. S. Examination are declared to have passed that Examination. In the First M. B. one has passed in the First Division and five in the Second. In the Second M. B. only one name in the first Division and two names in the second are gazetted.

***

THE results of the Final or Diploma Examination of the Medical Schools in 1895, are :

Campbell Medical School...	...	...	53
Dacca Medical School ...	...	...	50
Cuttack Medical School ...	...	...	24
Temple Medical School (Patna)	...	...	46

***

IT is notified that no transfer certificate issued by a high school, before its recognition by the Calcutta University, will be accepted for the purposes of the transfer rules for those schools, unless counter-signed by an Inspector of Schools. The list, the Notification continues, of recognized schools is given on pages 319-326 of the Calcutta University Calendar for 1895. Excepting that the notice appears in the ficial gazette, there is no other mark of authenticity.

***

HE *Times*' correspondent at Tokio wrote that

"The fight at Wei-Hai-Wei illustrates the importance of ships ainst well-constructed forts."

On this the *Portsmouth Times* remarked, it is

"an opinion which will find little support in the modern school naval tactics in England."

Whereupon the *Army and Navy Gazette* :

"We are not directly informed as to this 'school' of which our conporary speaks, nor is the connection between tactics and forts this matter quite clear, but we are strongly of opinion that all naval icers will agree with the *Times* correspondent that ships are impotagainst well-constructed, properly-equipped and efficiently-manned rts. This is not a lesson taught solely by the businesss at Wei-ai-Wei, where the attacking ships were mere cruisers, but by ores of instances in the history of past wars. Wherever ships ve beaten forts, the latter have been either improperly constructed, sufficiently equipped or badly manned."

The *Times* goes on to say :—

"According to experts like Admiral Colomb the erection of forts is thing more than a sheer waste of money, and so long as England s a fleet at sea the coast is impregnable, whereas, should the emy's ships break through our fleets, they would have no difficulty hatever in destroying the land defences. This view has been supported by much ingenious reasoning, and had not the Chinese demonstrated its fallacy the theory would probably have been generally accepted, d coast defences might speedily have sunk to a dangerous level."

The *Gazette* remarks :—

"We are not concerned to defend Admiral Colomb, though we do not lieve he has ever said or written anything that carries the meaning ven above. But the quotation we give shows that the writer in the *ortsmouth Times* entirely misunderstands the contention of those ho hold that land defences cannot in the case of this country by any ossibility become a substitute for ships. Port Arthur and Wei-Hai-Wei may both be cited as instances in support of this contention, for, spite of the excellent forts at those places, they fell as the command f the sea had passed into the Japanese hands. Fortifications are apital things in their way, but it is impossible to fortify the whole oast line, whereas ships in sufficient numbers, forming a mobile force, an protect our shores, and in spite of the seeming anomaly they can ften do this in the best possible manner when at some distance from he place to be protected."

***

HE British Admiralty have issued a return giving a description of the w first-class cruisers, for which provision is made in the Navy Estitates for 1895-96. It is as follows :—

"When the statement of the First Lord explanatory of the Navy timates for 1895-96 was presented, the designs for the four first-class uisers proposed to be laid down had not been completed, consequent details could not be furnished. Since that date these designs have been completed and approved by the Board. The principal dimensions are as follows : Length between perpendiculars, 435ft. ; length on the water-line, 455ft. ; breadth, 69ft. ; mean draught with keel, 25ft. 3in. ; displacement, about 11,000 tons. The armament will include fifteen 6in. quick-firing guns, fourteen twelve-pounders, quick-firers, and twelve three-pounders, besides smaller machine guns. The torpedo armament will include two submerged tubes and one stern tube. The protective arrangements to engines, boilers, magazines, and other vital portions will be practically identical with those of the *Powerful* and *Terrible*. The new cruisers will also resemble the *Powerful* in the protection of the armament and the arrangements for the transport of the ammunition from the magazines to the fighting positions. They will resemble the *Royal Arthur* and *Crescent* in having considerable height of freeboard, with a long forecastle. The steel hulls will be wood-sheathed and coppered, so that the vessels may keep the sea for long periods without serious loss of speed. The measured mile speed, with natural draught, will be about twenty and a-half knots, which should give, with the type of boiler to be used, a continuous sea speed for smooth water and clean bottom of about nineteen knots an hour. Coal bunker capacity for about 2,000 tons will be provided, half of this being carried at the above-stated draught and displacement."

The estimates provide also for new second-class cruisers. These vessels, of which there are four to be laid down, are to be 320ft. in length, with a breadth of 57ft., draught of water 22ft. and displacement 5,750 tons. These vessels will be built of steel, and will have a thick steel deck to protect the engines, boilers, magazines, &c. They will not be sheathed and are therefore for use in European waters. The armament will consist of 6in., 4·7in., and twelve-pounder quick-firing guns, arranged as in other recent second-class cruisers. The 6in. guns will have a force and aft fire, while the 4.7in. and twelve-pounder guns will be on the broad-side.

NOTES & LEADERETTES,

OUR OWN NEWS,

&

THE WEEK'S TELEGRAMS IN BRIEF, WITH OCCASIONAL COMMENTS.

THE second and fourth divisions of the Japanese army remain in the Liaotung Peninsula. A brigade of the second division will garrison Wei-hai-wei. The remainder of the troops will return to Japan. The Imperial Guard proceeds to Formosa The Japanese resent the retrocession of the Peninsula. It is reported from Yokohama that newspapers are being suppressed for condemning it. In Russia, they are for further advantages, especially for the passage of the Siberian Railway to a port on the Yellow Sea, which idea implies the inclusion of Corea in the Russian sphere. Germany, Russia, and France have requested Japan to specify the precise amount of special indemnity for the Liaotung Peninsula. It is supposed that the question has been brought forward by the three Powers in order to hasten the withdrawal of the Japanese troops from the Liaotung mainland China objects to European control over her customs as security for a loan. A report is current at Shanghai that China has asked for an extension of time for the cession of Formosa, pending the submission of further proposals, and that the Japanese Government has refused the request. The *Times* publishes a telegram stating that Liching, son of the Viceroy Li-Hung-Chang, has been appointed Chinese Imperial Commissioner for handing over the Island.

IN the House of Lords, on May 17, Lord Stanley of Alderley demanded protection for the silks of Great Britain similar to that given to cottons in India. Lord Kimberley replied that there was no protection for cottons in India, and that it was not the intention of her Majesty's Government to depart from the principle of free trade. We do not quite understand the report. Lord Stanley, who always looks to the interests of India, probably meant to draw particular attention to the injustice done to India by the recent financial measures.

THE Russian town of Brestlitovsk has been destroyed by fire. The population had retired to sleep when the fire broke out. As far as is known, thirty persons perished.

AN earthquake has occurred in the neighbourhood of Florence, by which a number of people have been killed and injured, especially in the adjacent villages. Many of the latter have been partly reduced to ruins. The panic-stricken inhabitants have taken to the fields and are suffering greatly from privation.

A TURKISH pilgrim vessel has been wrecked near Jeddah. She had on board over 700 pilgrims, all of whom were saved.

LORD Rosebery has returned from his yachting cruise with renewed health. Rumours of his early retirement have been renewed, and some excitement was caused in the lobby of the House of Commons on May 20, by the report that the Premier had resigned. It was a the same time rumoured that the dissolution of Parliament was imminent. The rumours of resignation are discredited. Mr. Labouchere, in his *Truth*, urges the necessity of an early dissolution of Parliament, but before taking such a step, he says, Lord Rosebery must first be replaced as Premier by Sir William Harcourt. Mr. Labouchere considers that the present headless condition of the Liberal party paralyses all action.

MR. Gladstone has accepted the invitation of Sir Donald Currie to attend the opening of the Kiel Canal on board the Tantallon Castle.

THE Scotch members are greatly annoyed at the delay with the Scotch Bills. Dr. McGregor, Liberal Member for Invernesshire, put several questions to Sir William Harcourt on Manday evening as to the intentions of Government regarding the progress of Scotch business, and became so displeased with the answers that he left the House in a huff and has resigned his seat.

REPLYING to Mr. Yerburgh, who asked for the inclusion of the districts of Usoga and Unyoro in the British protectorate over Uganda, Sir Edward Grey declined to entertain the proposal as an extension of the protectorate was not considered necessary.

THE first and second clauses of the Welsh Disestablishment Bill have passed through the Committee stage. The Government majorities in the various divisions ranged from eighteen to nine.

THE Committee of the House of Commons has rejected the contention of Earl Selbrone that he is entitled to retain his seat in the Lower Chamber in spite of his having succeeded to the peerage. He has hitherto sat in the House of Commons as Viscount Wolmer, Liberal Unionist Member for West Edinburgh. The Hon. Geo. N. Curzon strongly supported the claim of Earl Selborne.

THE jury have brought in a verdict of guilty against Alfred Taylor on two counts of the indictment charging him with acts of indecency. Sentence has been deferred. Wilde will be indicted separately.

A SCUFFLE took place in Piccadilly between the Marquis of Queensberry and his eldest son Viscount Dumlanrig, in which the son got a black eye. Both were arrested, charged before a Magistrate with disorderly conduct, and both bound down to keep the peace.

PRINCE Nasrullah has arrived in England. The Indian Marine stemar *Clive* carrying the Prince arrived at Spithead on the 23rd. He landed the next day at Portsmouth. An elaborate programme has been drawn up for the fitting reception of the son of England's loyal friend and ally, the Amir of Afghanistan. Sir Gerald Fitzgerald, Political Aide-de-Camp at the India Office, has been specially appointed to represent the Government. Dorchester House has been splendidly prepared for the guest's reception.

THE Prussian Diet has passed a resolution advocating the International regulation of currency with a view to the establishment of bimetallism, with an amendment providing that Germany shall only act in concert with Great Britain.

SIR Joseph Pease was yesterday to have moved a resolution asking the House of Commons to declare the opium revenue as morally indefensible and urging the suppression of the culture and sale of the drug except for medical purposes. The *Times* publishes an article strongly enjoining the Unionists to attend the division and defeat the attempt to derange the finances of India and meddle with the domestic habits of millions of people. A separate memorandum on the Opium Commission drawn up by the Maharaja of Durbhanga, has now been published.

LORD Salisbury, addressing a meeting at Bradford, reviewed the present position of Government, and said that the deadlock was due to endeavours to force through the House of Commons a series of Bills producing violent organic changes, when the party possessed a mere paltry majority.

SIR William Harcourt, speaking at a banquet at the Mansion House, admitted that great depression existed in all branches of trade and more notably in agriculture, but said that symptoms were visible of a revival of business and a general betterment of all classes The Chancellor of the Exchequer also stated that Government was resolved to adhere unswervingly to the monetary principles which had made the United Kingdom the commercial centre of the world.

LORD Roberts has been created a Field Marshal and succeeds the Right Hon. Viscount Wolseley as Commander-in-Chief of the forces in Ireland.

THE Tichborne Claimant has sworn an affidavit confessing that he is Arthur Orton. He was declared so by the courts in 1874. For all these years he had maintained againt all odds that he was the rightful owner of the Tichborne estates. What may mean the present affidavit? Is it intended to clear the way for another claim for which preparations are making? Or is it a case of stinging conscience?

YESTERDAY was the Queen's Birthday. It was no holiday, however, except the half holiday in the Bengal Secretariat, for the official observance has been fixed for this day. It was a gracious day all the same, we had a heavy shower of rain which was so much wanted It had other attractions. The Chairman of the Corporation gave a Garden Party at his residence which was well attended. If the rains interfered with the Evening Party of Babu Kali Prosono Dey of the *National Magazine*, it was the more enjoyable on that account.

THE shower of honours was reserved for this day. There is no knowing how it has fallen. There is no publication of the Honours in Calcutta though some of the morning papers give only an abridged mutilated list in their extraordinary numbers. We must wait till Tuesday next for the official gazette. Could not the Gazette Extraordinary be published simultaneously at Simla and the capital towns? The deserted metropolis must bear with this neglect.

SIR Charles Elliott had an attack of fever. He could not attend the dinner party at the Shrubbery Thursday last week.

THERE was an unusual stir in the Customs House on Wednesda A "Raja" had come on a visit to the Collector. He was well receive But his departure was a disappointment, for he had ordered no *bu* to the orderlies who had only hisses when he left. If the officiati Collector can put his foot on the delinquencies, small and great, the huge establishment, he will have left a name.

MR. Patrick Mc Guire has ceased to have any connection with t District Charitable Society. He was a good Secretary so far collections went. But he was not regular in his attendance at t office. For that sin he pays heavily. All the paying posts he he he has had to give up. There are several applicants for the vaca place, including a native. It will be the first experiment, if a Ba be accepted.

AS was expected, the Calcutta Corporation has re-elected Babu Sure dranath Banerjee for the Bengal Council. He won by 41 vo against his rival's 23. Although Mr. Banerjee outdistanced M Mitter by 18 votes, the votes in his favour on the last occasion we about half a dozen more.

THE *Indian Daily News*, in referring to the rule of Damdupat that still applied in the Original side of both the Calcutta and Bomb High Courts in suits between Hindus and that prevents the inter from exceeding the principal, coins the word "Dandupat." Whate the etymology of Damdupat, there is little likehood of its b confounded with Dandupat or, better still, Dandubat. Indian nam are very generally puzzling to ordinary Europeans who have neit the memory to remember nor the ability to pronounce them.

HERE is a pretty muddle about exchange compensation :—

"An interesting complication in connection with exchange compensation has cropped up in Perak. *Truth* distinguishes it as a more successful muddle than that of the Government of India. Compensation allowance, it appears, was sanctioned to its railway employés by the Government of Perak. Furthermore, the first instalment was paid to them. The Governor, however, refused to sanction the proceeding, and ordered a refund of the amount received. An attempt was made to carry out the order in the usual practical way, by cutting it in instalments from the following pay bills ; but this was met by a refusal on the part of the employees to accept the amounts so mulcted. Here for the present the matter rests, and whether it will result in a strike, or a lawsuit, or a compromise of gubernatorial dignity, does not yet appear. The circumstance that the first or any instalment of compensation allowance should have been paid without the Governor's sanction is very remarkable, however, and in this connection it may be as well to remember the hospitality of *Truth* to Eastern tales generally."

To take the materials of the paragraph from *Truth* and then to impeach the accuracy of that journal, is very much like picking a pocket in the crowd and then impeaching the owner as a man capable of carrying alse coin that may throw the picker into trouble. The fact is, superior officials of Government frequently act in anticipation of sanction. Their hopes are seldom frustrated. It is only in exceptional instances that a measure, thus carried out, is disallowed. We may be sure that if the inconvenience is properly represented, sanction will be accorded to what has been already done. None of the men will, at the end, have to actually refund the allowance drawn.

IT is said that the fortune of Jay Gould's daughter, Countess de Castellane, is to be fifteen million dollars, that of the Duchess of Marlborough seven millions, Mrs. Ralph Vinian, once Mrs. Marshall O. Roberts, is credited with six millions, and the Duchess de Campofelice, widow of Isaac Singer, of sewing machine fame, the Princess Colonna, once Miss Mackay, the Princess Hatzfeldt, Cyrus Huntington's daughter, and the Marchioness de Mores, are each said to have brought five million dollars to their husbands. Will somebody with abundant leisure count what the fortunes are of heiresses bestowed in marriage within the last twelve years in Calcutta and its suburbs? We believe, not one will be found worth even a million of dollars in her own right. Even when wealthy fathers marry their daughters here, they waste in useless expenditure sums of money much larger than what they are able to give as dower. They indulge in this folly partly because it is an ancestral custom from which there can be no deviation without incurring great obloquy, but partly also from their weakness and vanity.

HERE is bad news for the unco' good :—

"The prosecution of Mr. Aronson, manager of the Casino Theatre in New York, in connection with an exhibition of living pictures to which objection had been taken, continues. The performance at the theatre has, for some time past, concluded with a series of living statues, single or in groups, the persons representing the statues or groups wearing close-fitting suits of a bronze colour. Some of the Reform Societies of the city found the living statues objectionable, and legal steps were taken to suppress them. Miss Bessie Stanton, the young lady who appears as the living statue to which most exception had been taken, was conducted to a private apartment adjoining the court room, where she exchanged the costume she was wearing for the close-fitting bronze dress she appears in nightly at the Casino. She was placed on the witness-stand, and her presence in this attire created a sensation in the crowded court. The charge was at once dismissed. The crowd in the street outside cheered Mr. Aronson as he got into a carriage and was driven away."

Really, such efforts to protect the "morals" of society must excite the laughter of sensible men if they do not provoke indignation. Society is honey-combed by vice of every description. It is only when opposition to vice leads to the acquisition of cheap notoriety that it enlists the sympathies of the unco' good.

THE interest taken in the nauseous details of divorce cases is generally so keen that even ladies of culture repair to such trials in order to learn everything at firsthand. No doubt, the practice prevails of shutting the doors of the court room and hearing the witnesses after excluding the public, but in most cases this cannot be done. Newspapers are sometimes prosecuted for giving *verbatim* reports of proceedings that are disgusting for their obscenity. But there are reporters and reporters. With slight literary dexterity, the requirements of the law may be observed, and yet the accounts may be made more "juicy" as the Indian expression goes. Sometimes careful omissions appeal more strongly to the imagination than round unvarnished accounts setting forth all the facts. The Oscar Wilde case doubled the circulation of some evening papers. The second trial did the same. So far as our Judges are concerned, unable to check the morbid curiosity these proceedings provoke, they act with a wisdom that nobody can find fault with. Read the following :—

"Mr. Justice Hood, who presides in the Divorce Court at Melbourne, recently remarked in answer to an appeal made to him 'if ladies come to a Divorce Court they know what to expect. I will not order anybody out of court.' This puts an old Australian journalist in mind of an incident which happened in Melbourne twenty years ago. There was a case coming on in which some unwholesome details were expected to be disclosed, and Mr. Justice Barry was the Judge. The court-house was crowded, and among the visitors was a large percentage of women. On the case being called upon, the Judge remarked, 'I think it would be better if ladies would leave the court.' There was a rustle of dresses, and it was thought there would under such circumstances, be a general exodus of the fair sex, but the 'rustling' only meant that the fair ones had more firmly settled themselves in their seats. The Judge paused for a few moments, and then remarked in a dignified manner : 'Perhaps I was not heard or did not make myself sufficiently understood. I suggested that, perhaps, it would be better if in this case all ladies left the court.' Still there was not a move, and after another pause, His Honour observed sternly : 'I suppose I must have been mistaken, but I was under the impression that there were some ladies in the court—proceed with the case Mr. Crown Prosecutor.' That proved too much for the ladies and very soon there was not a petticoat in the court."

Yes, it was a dignified rebuke, and the Judge had every right to administer it under the circumstances.

OUR readers have seen the apology by which the Editor of the *Bengal Times* has made peace with Babu S. P. Sircar of the Subordinate Executive Service. Hauled up before a Criminal Court, the Editor, instead of defending himself, thought it proper to affix his signature to the document, presented to him by the complainant's lawyers. They who were responsible for drafting of the document must be regarded to have overshot the mark. The apology is, not the sincere expression of regret which a gentleman feels when convinced of his error in respect of a man he has injured. It is, on the contrary, an unnatural document that shows the spirit of the men who found Mr. Kemp under their power and who were, on that account, disposed to maket he most of the novel situation. Utterly helpless as Mr. Kemp was, he could not but submit to the demand of the prosecution. We suppose that if instead of such an acknowledgment of the unfoundedness of the aspersions, in the *Bengal Times*, on the character of Babu Sircar, they had added some expressions indicative of Mr. Kemp's belief in the Blavatsky miracles or in the existence of a submarine kingdom in the Pacific whose princess daily transformed herself into an Eagle for soaring aloft in the welkin and then changed herself into a being weighing just a hundred maunds, Mr. Kemp would all the same have signed it, relying on the sense of those who read the document for understanding what it truly meant. Artemus Ward, while crossing the great desert, fell into the hands of the Ute Indians. They were splendidly mounted, they were dressed in beaver skins, and they were armed with rifles, knives, and pistols. Led by his captors to their chief, Artemus cried,—"Great Chief, I surrender." His name was Wocky-bocky. He dismounted and approached Artemus—who saw the tomahawk glistening in his hand and a fire blazing in his eye. Seizing the golden locks of the captive, the Chief said,—"Torsha arrah darrah mishky bookshean !" Artemus was not disposed to contradict but at once said that he was right. Wocky-bocky rubbed his tomahawk on the face of the captive and exclaimed,—"Wuk-ho—loo-boo !" Artemus said,—"Mr. Wocky-bocky, I have thought so for years and so's all our family." Such prudence saved the humourist's life. We suppose, Mr. Kemp has acted in the same way. To sign such a document is quite different from expressing real grief upon conviction of wrong-doing.

WE read that—

"The Empress of Austria dislikes to sit in a room where there are flowers. When she last visited England, some few years back, the manageress of her hotel thoughtfully decorated her apartments with the choicest blooms and plants obtainable. When, however, the royal steward came upon the scene, he was horrified. 'Pray take these things away at once, madam,' said he, 'and do not let the Empress see a single petal. She cannot endure flowers !' So the entire staff of the establishment had to set to work to remove the adornments before the royal lady arrived."

It is a strange taste that avoids flowers which are, perhaps, the best offerings of vegetable nature to man. From the earliest times flowers have been so prized by man that he has thought them deserving of

being presented to his divine Maker. One of the names of the flower in Sanskrit is *Sumanas*, implying something that makes the mind cheerful. It surely argues a diseased temperament to be unable to bear the sight of flowers. One may be unable to bear the sight or the smell of this or that flower in particular, but the inability to bear the sight or the smell of flowers in general surely proves that all is not right with either the body or the mind.

REIS & RAYYET.

Saturday, May 25, 1895.

SIR SEYMOUR KEAY VINDICATED.

The Competition Wallah is the name of a weekly publication emanating from not an enviable quarter. The professed object of our infant contemporary is "To interest: to instruct: to inform." It is no organ of the Civil Service. But the self constituted advocate of that Service has assumed the functions of a political Attorney-General for the Government of India and, by virtue of his new office, has been of late making exhibitions which are highly amusing.

The main burden of the *Competition Wallah's* invectives fell of late on Sir Seymour Keay who, at the last sessions of the Indian Congress, had probed some of the sores of British rule in India. It is curious to note that in the whole course of his criticism, our contemporary never deviated into sense, and, whether consciously or unconsciously, missed altogether the drift of Sir Seymour's speech. The Resolution which he moved was in the following terms :—

"That this Congress, concurring in the views set forth in previous Congresses, affirms :- That fully fifty millions of the population, a number yearly increasing, are dragging out a miserable existence on the verge of starvation, and that in every decade, several millions actually perish by starvation ; and humbly urges, once more, that immediate steps be taken to remedy this calamitous state of affairs."

Sir Seymour established this charge against the Government of India not by relying entirely upon official admissions, but by showing deductively that the inevitable result of the present system of administration is the impoverishment of the country. He said :—

"Gentlemen, allow me to give you a general summary of a Parliamentary return which I was able to obtain on my motion three years ago. It is a return showing respectively the number and emoluments of the European and the Native officers employed in the Indian Government, receiving pay at Rs. 1,000 a year and upwards. That return shows that while, if you exclude the rank and file of the European soldiers, there are only 70,000 Europeans in the whole of this vast country, yet, of these 70,000 Europeans no less than 28,000 hold Government posts worth over Rs. 1,000 a year. What is the total of their pay? These 28,000 Europeans draw as pay the enormous sum of no less than 15½ crores of Rupees a year! Worse still, Gentlemen, the return shows that of these 28,000 Europeans no less than 33 per cent., that is to say, 1/3rd part of the whole, although they are quartered upon your revenues, reside not in India but in England *(Hear hear)*! In other words, they are absolutely non-effective for your Government. And the amount of pay or rather pension which these absentees receive comes actually to 6 crores of Rupees at this moment every year (*Shame*) ; and it is growing still! What country can go on standing that? On the other hand, we have the other page of the Return. We have there got a statement as to the Natives who receive pay from the Government of India exceeding Rs. 1,000 year. Well I have already mentioned that there are only 70,000 Europeans, but there are not only 70,000 of you. There are 287 millions of you the natives of India. Yet of the whole 287 millions of Natives, there are only 17,000 persons employed in the whole Empire at a pay of over Rs. 1,000 a year *(Shame)*. What do these 17,000 draw? These 17,000 draw actually only 3 crores of Rupees amongst the whole of them. In other words, what you have got is this :—the absentee Europeans actually draw from the revenues of your country more than double the whole amount of the whole salary of the whole of the Natives who are allowed to enter into the administration of their own country!"

Our clever contemporary quietly passes over the main bearings of the figures quoted and, with the energy of despair, clutches at some very trivial omissions on the part of Sir Seymour. It says:

"The figures (given by Sir Seymour Keay) are downright dishonest in their accuracy; for 287 millions include men, women and children, whereas 70,000 do not. If the 70,000 Europeans in India —in civil life of course—similarly included all ages and both sexes, less than one quarter only would be available to hold high office. Then again the *suggestio falsi* that the 287 millions of India are on an educational par with the resident Europeans, and that the Indian population could furnish high officials in the same proportion with the latter is so threadbare that it speaks volumes on the danger of dangling figures and statistics before minds so densely inept as those turned loose on Indian society by the State-education Fiend."

Such criticism cannot possibly require any rejoinder, and we might safely leave it to our readers to form their own opinions as to the direction in which dishonesty lies. It is news to us, and must be so to our readers, that the European residents in India are all well educated adults, living either in a state of single blessedness, or in lonely separation from their wives and children housed in Europe. Even granting, out of deference to the infallible authority of our "instructor" and "informer" that such is the case, the addition of 70,000 wives (we cannot add more, since polygamy is impossible under English law) and 280,000 children (*i. e.*, 4 a piece on the average) would not appreciably affect the comparison, or the force of the argument based on it.

What the *Competition Wallah* professes to say as to the educational superiority of his clients as compared with Indian peoples, may be admitted to have an element of truth. But the question is not whether the English as a nation are not better educated than the peoples of India taken collectively? The only question which can have any relevancy is whether it is not possible to find as good men among the natives of India as those that now enjoy the loaves and fishes of the Indian Services. If our Competition Wallah's clients are all conscious of being educationally superior to us, why do they not, like ourselves, insist upon fair field and no favour? The fierce opposition of the Anglo-Indians to every proposal for simultaneous examination clearly shows that, even with the advantage of English being their mother tongue, they cannot hope to beat us in open competition.

The *Competition Wallah* speaks of State-education as a Fiend. Supposing it to be really so from the point of view of our rulers, may we ask whether it has been conjured up with British money, and for philanthropic purposes only? It seems to us that the machinery of the British Government in India cannot work for a single day without the armies of clerks, post-masters, railway station-masters, and telegraph signallers turned out by our English schools and colleges. The fact is that State education is not a fiendish enemy but the guardian angel of the rulers. The schools and colleges set up in the country have done more to safeguard and consolidate British rule than even its powerful standing armies and Police. The hankering after University distinctions which has been generated by English education has destroyed every other kind of ambition in Indian youths. This result is deplorable indeed from the point of view of national prosperity, but is certainly a great and unexpected gain to the rulers. If similar aspirations be ever generated in the minds of the youths in the frontier districts, India would be perfectly safe from the possibility of internal commotions. At any rate, as the small amount of money that is now spent in fostering English education is derived from the Indian taxpayers, no Bri-

tisher can have any right to charge us with ingratitude, or to pose as a person wronged by the recipients of his charity. The position of Government is, that of a guardian who has spent, for his own benefit or that of his kith and kin, the greater portion of the income of his ward, and who, when called upon by his ward for an account, charges him with undutiful conduct, for making use of the education given to him, in pressing his claim for past damages, or in order to restrain future devastation.

ROBERT HEATLY HOLLINGBERY.

THE East Indian community is poorer by the death of one more of its Worthies. Mr. Robert Heatly Hollingbery died at the Howrah General Hospital at the age of 70, full of years but not of honours. Though no Patriot or Bard, or Colonel or Major, he was nonetheless a hero and deserves a niche in the gallery of Ricketts, Derozio, Skinner and Hearsey. Born of poor parents, he had not the advantage of school education. But he had natural parts and had improved them in the hard struggle for existence. At the early age of 18, he was compelled to earn his own livelihood. Entering the office of the Military Auditor General on a small pay, he ended as Assistant Secretary to the Government of India in the Financial Department, on a salary of Rs. 2,000 a month. He was very hard-working, shrinking from no labour which, indeed, was a pleasure to him. Night brought him no rest. In his bed he would be occupied with his papers till the small hours. The late Babu Shama Charan Dey, Assistant Comptroller General, used to say of Mr. Hollingbery that he had not in his whole experience known another more laborious. During the incumbency of Mr. Lushington as Financial Secretary, Mr. Hollingbery was the *de facto* Secretary to the Government of India in the Financial Department. So useful had he made himself that no financial scheme was passed that had not his approval. His quickness of perception and rapidity of execution had made him invaluable to his employers. The more versatile Sir Richard Temple could not too move a step without him. In every difficulty he would take his advice and be guided by him. He would make him sit before him, take notes of what he said, read to him what he had taken down and adopt the suggestions as his own. The Government of India has always been in want of funds. On one occasion Sir Richard Temple ran up to him and wanted him to devise a scheme for raising money without fresh taxation. It may seem strange that the Whipping Act was the outcome of a financial measure. Yet so it was. Mr. Hollingbery had fixed upon it as a means to reduce the expenditure in jails. He would openly say to his friends that he had succeeded in getting half the population flogged to save the Government of India from a financial crisis. At one time Lord Northbrook having need of his services and intending to instruct him personally, wished that he might be present at the dinner. But Mr. Hollingbery's name not being in Government House list, Mr. Chapman, the then Financial Secretary, asked Mr. Hollingbery to call at Government House to qualify himself for the honour. Needless to say that he gave every satisfaction to the Viceroy. He not only finished the special work before the allotted time but did it in addition to his current duties, though orders had been issued for relieving him.

He was an authority in matters relating to land and currency, on both of which, he wrote largely. *The Zemindary Settlement of Bengal* will remain a standing monument of his industry and research. Though superseded by Dr. Hunter's Bengal MSS., it will continue a charter of the Bengal Zemindars. When he set to work on these volumes it was to curb the pretensions of the Zemindars, but such was the strength of their cause and such his own adherence to truth, that he finished by siding with the Permanent Settlement. Argumentative and strong in facts, he was fearless as a writer. On one occasion, when no longer in service, he submitted a memorial on behalf of a Native Chief to the Government of India, in the Foreign Department, in which he is reported to have written "that if this occurrence had taken place fifty years back, the Raja would not have appealed to the sense of justice of His Excellency the Viceroy, but would have appealed to arms and fifty thousand swords would have jumped out of their scabbards." He was taken to task for this outrageous outspokenness, and had, we believe, to leave Rajputana, where he had set up as a political petition writer

He was not strong only in his own department of special knowledge. He successfully combatted the Public Works Department on an useless expensive project as a famine relief work in the days of Lord Lytton. A Divisional Bench of the Bengal High Court had held that Mourbhanj, in the Gurjat Mahals, Orissa, was part of British India. Mr. Hollingbery who was entrusted with the case for the Raja, drafted a letter proving that it was not so. The High Court in Full Bench upheld the contention and, overruling the previous order, advised the Bengal Government to pass a short Act declaring the Mahals British India.

Mr. Hollingbery was born, lived, and died, poor. Very little of his respectable income was spent on himself. His food was simple and he indulged in no luxury. Nursed in the lap of adversity, his purse was always open for the relief of distress and for accommodation of poor relations and friends. On their account he ran into debt, and came to grief. But his dealings were honourable. When arrested for debt and brought before the High Court in its Original Jurisdiction, and asked by the presiding Judge why he did not take the benefit of the Act, he made no answer and quietly went to Jail. Having failed to repay his creditors, he felt that he must suffer. In the Jail he had the satisfaction of being able to befriend two of the fellow lodgers out of the forced home. He obtained their liberty by appealing to certain Christian Institutions which paid off their debts. A portion of his income went regularly in aid of the Doveton College Fund when it was low. While his heart bled for the poor and the struggling, his hand knew not to strike. He was exceptionally kind to his assistants and would never punish them if he could help it. He used to say that office clerks are taught to tell lies by the harshness of their superiors.

On his retirement, forced on by his imprisonment, he was granted a special pension of Rs. 500 a month. Following a precedent, he had applied for a bonus. But the Government of Lord Lytton would not sanction it for the benefit of his creditors. A special pension was therefore recommended. It was as useful to himself as the bonus, if granted, would have been, for he had set it apart for repayment of debts. Out of service, he had, therefore, to work for his bread, and died a pauper.

WHERE WAS ZOROASTER'S NATIVE PLACE?

BY PROFESSOR A. V. WILLIAMS JACKSON,

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(From the Journal of the American Oriental Society.)

WITH regard to the native place of the founders of three of the great Oriental religions---Buddhism, Confucianism, Mohammedanism---the authorities are mostly in agreement; with reference to Zoroastrianism, however, the case is far different. Among the ancient Greeks and Romans we are told that seven cities claimed to be the birth-place of the poet Homer; if we take into account the various opinions on the question of the native country of the prophet Zoroaster, the same may also be said of him. The question in regard to Zoroaster's home is one of interest, for with it is connected the question where we are to place the cradle of the Mazdean religion. The subject has given rise to the liveliest dispute.

Arguments have been brought forward by some to show that we must place the home of Zoroaster in the east of Iran, in Bactria; he is accordingly often styled "the Bactrian sage." By others it is claimed that he came from the west of Iran, or rather from Media, some say from Persia. In spite of these contradictory views, the difficulty may be overcome, it is believed, and the problem may be solved, if the subject be looked at in its right light. Both sides are in part wrong, both sides in part right. The fallacy, it may at the outset be stated, lies in assuming that the scene of the prophet's real activity and of his mission must likewise have been his native place. It is with this word of caution in mind that all the statements and theories on the subject will here be examined, and the endeavour will be made to clear away the difficulty.

The authorities of antiquity to whom we may look for information on the subject and whose statements form the source from which our views are deduced, are---*a.* Classical: *b.* Oriental.

The principal passages have already been collected by Windischmann, *Zoroastrische Studien*, p. 270 ff.; but some points in the later tradition have been overlooked. As important deductions may be drawn from these latter, it is useful to add them, and to arrange anew all the material that bears as evidence on the subject. The allusions to the country of Zoroaster we may therefore take up in detail, presenting, first, statements referring to Bactria, or the east of Iran; second, allusions to Zoroaster as belonging in the west, in Media or Persia.

A. CLASSICAL AND NON-IRANIAN.

1. Bactria---Eastern Iran.

The following allusions in the classic writers of Greece and Rome show that Zoroaster was thought of as a Bactrian, or at least as exercising his activity in the east of Iran.

The authority of the historian Ktesias (B. C. 400) is quoted by Diodorus Siculus (1st century A.D.), ii. 6, for the statement that Ninus, with a large army, invaded Bactria, and with the aid of Semiramis gained a victory over King Oxyartes. See *Fragm. of the Persika of Ktesias*, ed. Gilmore, p. 29.

Fragments of Kephalion (A.D. 120), preserved in Eusebius, Chron. i. 43, ed. Aucher, describe the rebellion of Zoroaster the Magian, the king of the Bactrians, against Semiramis: *de Zoroastri Magi Bactrianorum regis debellatione a Semiramide.* See Spiegel, *Eranische Alterthumskunde*, i. 676. In agreement with this is also cited Eusebius (A. D. 300), *Chron.* iv. 35, ed. Aucher, *Zoroastres Magus rex Bactrianorum.* Add to this, Eusebius, *Præparatio Evang.* x. 9, according to which statement also Zoroaster the Magian ruled over the Bactrians.

Similarly Theon (A.D. 130 ?), *Progymnasmata* 9 *(Peri Syngriseos*, ed. Spengel, *Rhæt. Græc.*, p. 115), in connection with Semiramis, speaks of "Zoroaster the Bactrian." See also Windischmann, *Zoroastrische Studien*, p. 290.

Justin (A.D. 120), moreover, in his *Hist Philippic.* i. 1, distinctly makes Zoroaster the opponent of Ninus, and says that he was king of Bactria: *Postremum illi bello cum Zoroastre rege Bactrianorum fuit, qui primus dicitur artes magicas invenisse et mundi principia siderumque motus diligentissime spectasse.* See Gilmore, *Ktesias' Persika, p.* 29.

In like manner Arnobius (A.D. 297), *Adversus Gentes* i. 5, mentions a battle between the Assyrians and the Bactrians, under the leadership respectively of Ninus and Zoroaster, *inter Assyrios et Bactrianos, Nino quondam Zoroastreque ductoribus.* See Gilmore, *Ktesias*, p. 36. A parallel statement, *Zoroastres . . . Bactrianus*, in *Adv. Gent.* i. 52, confirms the view that Arnobius regarded Zoroaster as a Bactrian.

Two later but independent classical authors rightly place Zoroaster under a King Hystaspes (i. e. Vishtaspa, Gushtasp), and one of these distinctly calls him a Bactrian. These are Ammianus Marcellinus (5th century A. D.), and Agathias (6th century A. D.). Ammianus, xxiii. 6. 32, p. 294, ed. Ernest, says: *cui scientiam seculis priscis multa ex Chaldæorum arcanis Bactrianus addidit Zoroastres; deinde Hystaspes rex prudentissimus Darii pater.* Both these writers therefore recognize, not as a king, but as the founder of a religion under a king Hystaspes. Ammianus does indeed identify Hystaspes (Vishtaspa, Gushtasp) with the father of Darius; but Agathias properly observes that the Persians do not make it clear whether by the name Hystaspes we are to understand the father of Darius, or another Hystaspes.

This concludes the list of classical authors that refer to Zoroaster as a Bactrian, or to that region as the scene of his prophetic activity. Let it be observed that the majority of the statements speak of him as a king; this doubtless is due to confusion with King Vishtaspa (Hystaspes), under whom he flourished. Doubts may be expressed as to whether all the allusions really refer to the founder of the Mazdean faith; there can be little question, however, that the allusions are intended for him, whatever may be the time at which they may suppose him to have lived.

Having thus considered the views pointing to Bactria, we may turn to those suggesting the west of Iran, Media or Persia, as the home of the prophet.

2. Media or Persia---Western Iran.

The following allusions in the classics unanimously mention Zoroaster in connection with the west of Iran.

Clemens Alexandrinus (A. D. 200) sometimes speaks of Zoroaster as a Mede, but sometimes as a Persian. The latter allusion we find in his *Stromata*, i. 357, where he makes Pythagoras one of his followers. The accuracy of the statement in regard to Pythagoras is of course extremely questionable. See Windischmann, *Zoroastrische Studien*, p. 263. On another occasion Clemens identifies Zoroaster with Er, the son of Armenius, a Pamphylian. This would place Zoroaster in Asia Minor. See Windischmann, *Zor. Stud.*, p. 273 note, referring to *Stromata*, v. 711.

Pliny the Elder (A.D. 23-79), in his *Hist. Nat.* xxx. 1, 2, makes Zoroaster's native land even further west, in Proconessus, the island in the Propontus. See Windischmann, *Zor. Stud.*, p. 299.

Hermodorus, the disciple of Plato, quoted by Diogenes Laertes, Proem. 2 ad init., speaks of Zoroaster as a Persian.

Suidas in his Lexicon terms Zoroaster a "Perso-Median." This point also is worth noticing.

The Armenian Moses of Chorene (A.D. 431), i. 16, makes Zoroaster a contemporary of Semiramis, and calls him "a Magian, the sovereign of the Medes." See Gilmore, *Ktesias' Persika*, p. 30 note, and Spiegel, *Eranische Alterthumskunde* i. 682.

Arguments have furthermore been brought forward to show that in the fragments that have been preserved of Berosus of Babylon (B.C. 250) mention is made of the name Zoroaster as a Median; but whether the founder of the religion is to be understood by this remains uncertain.

The classical references above, if viewed alone, appear on the surface extremely contradictory; and from them it would seem as if little could with certainty be deduced. Laying aside these authorities, however, recourse may now be had to the more direct Iranian tradition. To this may be added one or two quite explicit statements from other Oriental, though non-Iranian sources. If these be carefully examined, we shall be surprised to find that there really is an agreement in references on the one hand to the field of Zoroaster's preaching, and on the other to his probable home. This will give us a new light in which to criticise the classical statements.

B. IRANIAN---THE TRADITION.

1. Bactria---Scene of Prophetic Career.

A study of the Avesta shows that most of the scenes described in that book are to be located in eastern Iran; in the later Persian epic, the Shah-Namah, also, it is in the east that Zoroaster's mission is carried on. Tradition also has it that the prophet ended his life in Balkh. These points all become significant when viewed in their right light. Before proceeding to draw conclusions, however, we must examine in detail what is said in the Avesta and other Zoroastrian works with regard to the first appearance of the prophet. This point is of importance.

2. Media, Atropatene---Scene of the Prophet's Appearance.

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Turning to the Zoroastrian books themselves, we find statements which plainly lead us to infer that the prophet really first appeared in the west of Iran, either in Atropatene or in Media proper.

The Bundahish places the home of Zoroaster in Iran Vej (*Airyana Vaejah*), by the river Darja, and adds the fact that his father's house stood on a mountain by that river. For instance :

Bd. xx. 32 : *Daraja rud pavan Airan Vej, munas*
man-i Porasasp avidar-i Zaratust pavan bar yebevund
'The Darja river is in Airan Vej, on a hill (*bar*) by which was the house of Porushasp, the father of Zaratusht.' See also West, *Pahlavi Texts* transl., *S. B. E.* v. 82. Again,

Bd. xxiv. 15 : *Daraja rud rudbaran rad, mamanas*
man-i abidar-i Zaratust pavan bala ; Zaratust tamman zad
'The Daraja river is the chief of exalted rivers, for the dwelling of Zaratusht was upon its banks ; and Zoroaster was born there.'

There can be little doubt that these unequivocal statements of the Bundahish rest upon good old tradition. The statements carry out in detail the lines found in the Avesta itself. In Vd. xix. 4, 11, we also learn that the temptation of Zoroaster by Ahriman on the one hand, and the prophet's communings with Ormazd on the other, took place on a mountain by the river Darja, where was the house of his father Pourushaspa.

Vd. xix. 4 : *darejya patti zbarahi nmanahe Pouruspahe*
'by the Darja, upon a mountain, at the home (loc. gen.) of Pourushaspa.'

Vd. xix. 11 : *peresat Zarathustro Ahurem Mazdam . . .*
[darejya patti zbarahi Ahurai vanhave vohumaidhe aonhano
Asai Vahistai, Khsathrai Vairyai, Spentayai Armatee]
'Zoroaster questioned Ahura Mazda . . . upon the hill by the Darja, praying to Ahura Mazda, the good, who is endowed with good, to Asha Vahishta, Khshathra Vairya, and Spenta Armaiti.'

The reference to the 'hill,' Av. *zbarah* (Skt. *bvaras*, Phl. *bar* Bd. xx. 32), is quite in accord with the tradition that Zoroaster retired to a mountain for meditation : cf. Vd. xxii. 19 : *gairim avi spento-frasnao, varesem avi spento-frasnao* 'toward the mountain of the holy communion, toward the forest of the holy communion.' Similarly elsewhere (see below) reference is made to Zoroaster's communings upon a mountain. Such prophetic meditations are thoroughly Oriental.

This river Darja we may perhaps localize ; it may be identical with the river Darya, which flows from Mount Savellan (Sebilan) in Adarbijan (Atropatene) into the Aras or Araxes. So also Darmesteter, *Zend-Avesta* transl., *S.B.E.* iv., Introd. p. xlix. For the Aras (Araxes) see de Harlez, *Avesta* traduit, p. viii, map, and Phillip and Son's (London) map of Persia. If this identification be correct, the ancient Darja was in Media Atropatene.

Another explicit, although late and non-Iranian, tradition connecting Zoroaster with the region of Atropatene is found in Kazwini. In this Arabic writer, Zoroaster is associated with Shiz., the capital of Atropatene. Consult Darmesteter, *Zend-Avesta* transl., *S.B.E.* iv., Introd. p. xlix, where Rawlinson's identification of Shiz with Takht-i Suleiman is noted. The passage from Kazwini (quoted from Rawlinson) reads : "In Shiz is the fire-temple of Azerekhsh, the most celebrated of the Pyræa of the Magi ; in the days of the fire-worship, the kings always came on foot, upon pilgrimage. The temple of Azerekhsh is ascribed to Zeratusht, the founder of the Magian, religion, who went, it is said, from Shiz to the mountain of Sebilan, and, after remaining there some time in retirement, returned with the Zend-Avesta, which, although written in the old Persian language, could not be understood without a commentary. After this he declared himself to be a prophet." Thus far Kazwini.

The account here given, we observe, tallies accurately with the statements and suggestions made immediately above. In the Avesta, as above quoted, it was on a hill by the river Darja that Zoroaster communed with God. The hill (*zbarah*) or mountain (*gairi*) thus referred to by the Avesta would answer to Kazwini's Mount Sebilan ; the proposed identification of the Avestan Darja with the modern river Darya would be confirmed, as this latter river flows from Mt. Sebilan into the Aras.

For the region of Atropatene speaks also the authority of Yaqut (see Spiegel, *Eranische Alterthumskunde*, i. 684), who, like Abulfeda, points to the town of Urumia as the native place of Zoroaster. See also foot-note below, p. 231.

At this point we must furthermore take up the tradition which directly connects the opening of Zoroaster's prophetic career with Airyana Vaejah or Iran Vej. This land is often regarded as mythical ; it may originally have been so, but there is good reason for believing that the fact of the later localization of this region in the west of Iran points to the common belief that Zoroaster originally came from that direction. The Bundahish xxix. 12 connects Iran Vej directly with Atropatene : *Airan Vej pavan kust-i Atarp patakan.* The river Darja, near which stood the house of Zoroaster's father, is especially stated in Bd. xx. 32 to have been in Iran Vej. In the Avesta, moreover, Zoroaster is familiarly called "the renowned in Airyana Vaejah" : Ys. ix 14, *sruto airyene vaejahe*. The prophet is there also represented as offering sacrifice in Airyana Vaejah by the river Daitya : Yt. v. 104 ; ix. 25 ; xvii, 45, *airyene vaejahi vanhuyao daityayao*. In the later Persian Zartusht-Namah---see Wilson, *Parsi Religion*, p. 491---it is the waters of the Daiti that Zoroaster crosses in a miraculous manner after he has had the vision of the conflict with the demons and of the final conversion of Medyo-mah. After passing Daiti, he receives the visions of God (with which compare Ys. xlii. 3-15), and thence he proceeds to King Vishtaspa. The Daitya was perhaps a border stream ; it is to be remembered that it was on the other side of it (cf. *pasne*, Yt. xvii. 49) that Vishtaspa sacrificed. The Bundahish likewise alludes to Zoroaster's first offering worship in Iran Vej, and receiving Medyo-mah as his first disciple :

Bd. xxxii. 3 : *Zaratust, amatas din dattivand, fratum den Airan*
Vej fraj yast parsund ; Medyok-mah din minas mekadlund.
'Zoroaster, when he brought the religion, first celebrated worship in Airan Vej, and Medyok-mah received the religion from him'. Cf. Justi, *Bundahish*, p. 79, and West, *Pahlavi Texts* transl., *S. B. E.* v. 141. This Medyok-mah is the Maidhyo-mah of the Avesta, Yt. xiii. 95 ; Ys. li. 19, the cousin of Zoroaster ; and he seems to have been a man of influence. That he was the prophet's first disciple is distinctly recognized also by the Avesta, Yt. xiii. 95 : *yo paoiryo Zarathustrai mathremca gusta tasnaosca.*

All these traditional Oriental allusions are unanimous in placing Zoroaster in Adarbijan or Media Atropatene. There is yet another passage drawn from the Avesta that connects his name with Ragha (Rai) in the same region, or more particularly in Media, properly so called. This allusion is in the Pahlavi version of Vd. i. 16. The Avesta text reads :

dvadasem asanhamca soithranamca vahistem frathweresem azem yo
aburo mazdao, Raghem thrizantum [*vaedhanbo nait zois*
(dahakai)].

'As the twelfth, I created Ragha of the three races.' The Pahlavi commentary adds 'triple-raced Rak, of Ataro-patakan (Atropatene) ; some say it is Rai ; . . . some say Zartust belonged there.'

This connection of the name of Zoroaster with Ragha is also given elsewhere in the Avesta. In Ys. xix. 18, mention is made of the five lords, "the lord of the house, the village, the province, and the country, and the Zarathushtra as the fifth." By *Zarathustro pukhdho*, a high priest or Iranian pope is apparently intended. This order of lords holds good for all countries "except the Zarathushtrian Ragha." "The Zarathushtrian Ragha has four masters, the master of the house, the village, the province, and the Zarathushtra as the fourth" :

Aonham dahyunam yao anyao Rajoit Zarathushtroit. Cathru-
aonham Ragha Zarathushtris. Kaya anbao ratavo ? Nmanyasca,
visyasca, zantumasca, Zarathustro tuiryo.

This reference, in addition to the Pahlavi just above quoted, at least shows plainly that Ragha (Raji) must have been the chief seat of the religious government, the papal see. In like manner, Yaqut, cited by Darmesteter, *Zend-Avesta* transl., *S.B.E.*, iv. p. xlviii, describes a celebrated fortress in the province of Rai, which was the stronghold of the Zoroastrian high-priest. If Ragha was indeed the "Zoroastrian Ragha," and enjoyed such religious prominence, it must have been because of Zoroaster's connection with it in some way or other. What was this connection ?

The direct Iranian tradition, we have seen, connects Zoroaster's birth and the opening of his career with the west of Iran ; but how shall we account for his name being associated first with Atropatene and then with the Median Rai ? The solution of the difficulty may be found. An interesting allusion cited from Shahristani by Hyde, *Hist. Relig. vet. Pers.*, p. 298, seems to have been overlooked ; it apparently contains the key to the problem. Hyde, in referring to the Magi, quotes a passage from Shahristani, rendering it thus : *hi* (inquit Shahristani) *fuerunt Asectae Zerdusht Sapientis filii Purshasp, qui apparuit tempore Hystasp. Ex regione Aderbayagjan fuit Dogbdu. Pater ejus, et ex urbe Rey orta est Mater, cujus nomen fuit Dogbdu.* Here we have a new clue, and apparently the answer to the question why Zoroaster's name should be connected with both places. Zoroaster's mother, as the tradition has preserved, was from Rai ; his father was a native of Atropatene (Adarbijan. In the latter ragion Zoroaster probably was born, and he seems to have spent there the first part of his life, probably by the river Darja. It was there his religious meditations began. That accounts for his name being associated with all this territory, Urumiah, Shiz, Mount Sebilan. His connection with Ragha may furthermore be plausibly explained.

There is great reason to believe that if, as seems most likely, Zoroaster was born in Atropatene, he was drawn toward the important city of Ragha, somewhat perhaps as Christ went to Jerusalem. This would be natural if we remember Shahristani's statement, just above, connecting his mother's family with Ragha. Let us again consult the tradition, and bring its allusions, wherever possible, to honour. In the Zartusht Namah, while much is purely legendary, there is also much that is based on good foundation. The book itself claims to be found [illegible] old Pahlavi works. In the narrative there given we are told that Zoroaster was thirty years of age when he began his ministry. He [illegible]tly leaves his native land, presumably Atropatene, [illegible] views be correct, for "his heart was directed to [illegible]." See Wilson, *Parsi*

Religion, p. 490 He sets out, as described in the narrative, with a company of followers, crosses a sea, journeys during the month of Spendarmat (February), and on the last day of the month he finds himself upon the confines of Iran. It is there that he has the vision that Medyo-mah will receive his religion, and he dreams of the army of demons from the east. It is with this point we may connect Zoroaster's first attempt at preaching in Ragha.

If the view here adopted be correct, the vision of the army of demons may have been a forecast of Zoroaster's ill success at first in Ragha and elsewhere --- misfortune, however, that was destined ultimately to turn out successfully and in victory. There is good reason for believing that Zoroaster's teaching did not at first meet with success. The statement of Zad-sparam (see West, *Pahlavi Texts*, transl., *S.B.E.* v. 187) would carry out this view. It is there noted that during the first ten years Zoroaster obtained one disciple, Medyok-mah. This might apply well to Ragha.

A polemical allusion to Ragha, as shrewdly suggested by Geldner, *K.Z.* xxviii. 202-203, is perhaps to be found in the Gathas, Ys. liii. 9. Unfortunately the passage is not quite clear, and the reading of the text is somewhat uncertain. Manuscript authority, however, gives the following text (Ys. liii. 9) :

duzvarenas vaeso rasti toi narepis rajis
aetasa dejst-areta peso-tanvo
ku asava ahura, yo is jyatens hemithyat vase-itosca
ku mazda tava khsathrem ya ereseyyoi dahi drigaove vahyo ?

This may provisionally be rendered (cf. Geldner, loc. cit.) : 'To the evil-believers hell (lit. poison, i. e. of hell) belongs. Those man-banishing(?) Raghians, . . . the unrighteous (*dejst-areta*), are accursed (*peso-tanvo*) ! Where is the righteous one, O Ahura, who will deprive them of their life and freedom ? Where is that kingdom of thine, O Ahura, by which thou wilt give to the right-living man, though poor, the best reward ?' The text and the passage, as stated, are obscure ; but there certainly seems to be contained in it the reminiscence of an imprecation against the Raghians, the generation of vipers that shall not escape damnation. This Capernaum, though now exalted, shall be thrust down to hell. Cf. St. Luke x. 15, St. Mathew xi. 30 ff.

Zoroaster, cast out from Ragha in Media, may have turned to Bactria, where at last he was received by King Vishtaspa. According to the Zartusht-Namah, Zoroaster seems to have journeyed for a month or so, after his first vision of the army of fiends, and then to have crossed the Daiti, which, according to the suggestion above (p. 227), appears to have been a border river. There he receives the visions of God and the archangels, before proceeding to Balkh. The book of Zad-sparam (cf. West, *Pahlavi Texts*, transl., v. 187) allows two years to have elapsed from the time of Medyo-mah's conversion to the time that Zoroaster won Vishtaspa over to the faith. The latter event, it assumes, took place twelve years after Zoroaster had entered upon his ministry. All this is consistent with the idea of wandering and meditation, when we take into account also the thousand or more miles that separated Balkh from Atropatene and Ragha.

Assuming the supposition to be true that Zoroaster originated in Atropatene and was then drawn toward Ragha, but thence rejected, how are we to reconcile with this curse against the Raghians (Ys. liii. 9) the fact that the same city became the acknowledged head of the Zoroastrian faith ? A solution may be offered. It is not at all impossible that, after success was won in the east, in Bactria, a religious crusade was begun toward the west, especially against Ragha. Hystaspes himself may have joined in the movement ; his name is sometimes mentioned in connection with Media ;* and, according to the Shah-Namah, his son Isfendiyar promulgated the faith of Zoroaster in several countries. Ragha, we can imagine, may have been among these ; and we may suppose that this Jerusalem---if we may with all reverence adopt the phrase of our own Scriptures---the city which had stoned the prophet, at last received and blessed him that came in the name of Ormazd. Ragha was at last glad to claim Zoroaster (Ys. xix. 18) as its head.

The assumption of the reminiscence of a severe struggle against unbelief, and of a change of heart in the people, would make clear why heresy *aghemca uparo-vimanohim* as the counter-creation of Ahriman, should be so markedly associated with Ragha, Vd. i. 16 ; and it would explain why the scholiast in the Pahlavi version of the passage should add the saving clause, *vaedhanho noit uzois*, Ragha belongs no longer to heresy, but to the faith. It has become the "Zarathushtrian Ragha."

Resume.---If the above views be correct, Zoroaster indeed arose in the west, most probably somewhere in Atropatene. He then presumably went to Ragha, but, finding this an unfruitful field, turned at last to Bactria, where the prophet was destined no longer to be without honour. He met with a powerful patron in the king ; church and state became one. From Bactria, the now organized state-religion spread back towards Media ; thence down to Persia.

It can hardly be said that thus to reconcile the conflicting statements is begging the question ; authority can be given for every point that has been made. All the difficulties disappear. The references to Bactria in the Avesta and in the classics are quite correct ; there was the scene of the great teacher's activity. The references to Media in the classics and in the tradition are equally correct ; Media in its broadest sense was the original home of the prophet ; thence came the priests, for there, as Marcellinus xxiii. 6 later tells us, were "the fertile fields of the Magi." The hint, moreover, that Zoroaster after the conversion of Vishtaspa visited his own native land again, but was at last murdered at Balkh in Bactria, is furthermore given according to tradition also by Anquetil du Perron, *Zend-Avesta*, i. 2, p. 52 ; ii. p. 807-808, Index. The latter fact about Zoroaster's death may not have been untrue.

The conclusion arrived at is that, though Zoroaster originally came from the west, he taught and elaborated his religion in Bactria ; its blossoms later bore fruit in the west. The upholders of each side of the much-mooted question are in part right, and yet in part wrong ; the horns of the dilemma are at last united, the question is at last solved. Honour to the tradition where honour is due.*

* In the Yatkar-i Zariran, ed. W. Geiger, *Sitz. bayer. Akad.*, 1890, p. 50, there also lurks, perhaps, in the words *Hutos-i Rajur*, an allusion to Ragha ; and from them it might possibly be suggested that Vishtaspa's interest in Media was partly through his marriage, as well as on political grounds. If there is such an allusion to Hutaosa's having come from Ragha, we might perhaps conjecture that the new prophet Zoroaster was originally attracted from Ragha to Balkh through the queen's alliance. Let us then recall Augustine in connection with Emma and Æthelbert. But the passage requires further study before mere fanciful conjectures are made, especially in the light of some apparently contradictory passages in the Avesta and the Zartusht-Namah.

OFTEN TIRED BUT NEVER WEARY.

LET'S discuss this point for two minutes. Here's a man who says that at a certain period he began to feel "tired and weary." That's precisely the way he puts it in his letter. Now anybody has a right to feel tired or fatigued (it's the same thing), after labour or much exercise. It's the body's fashion of telling you to hold up, to give it a rest. It is a natural and, in health, with supper and sleep just ahead, a pleasant feeling. But weariness !—that's different. That comes of monotony, of waiting, of loneliness. Weariness is of the mind, not of the body. But it can arise *in* the body, all the same. If this bothers you at first, don't say, "Stuff !" "humbug !" but study up on it. A man may be *tired* and happy, but not *weary* and happy. For weariness means depressed spirits, and nerves all sagged down in the middle. And when you get both at once you will be wise to find out what's gone wrong.

It is a short letter, this is, and we can just as well quote the whole of it. The writer says : "It was in November, 1887, when I began to feel tired and weary. It seemed as if I had no strength left in me. Before that I had always been strong and healthy. My appetite was poor, and for days together I could not touch any food that was placed before me. After every meal that I did succeed in forcing down I had such dreadful pains in the chest and back that I was almost afraid to eat. Then there was a sharp pain around the heart, too, as though I was stabbed with a knife.

"I lost a deal of sleep, and for nights together I didn't sleep at all. Then I began to lose flesh rapidly, and was afraid I was going into a consumption. Yet I kept on with my work, however, but it was a hard thing for me, because I was so weak and nervous that I trembled from head to foot. As time went on I gradually got worse and worse, and my eyes were sunken and drawn in. I consulted a doctor in Kentish Town. He gave me medicine, but it did no good. After all this I got the idea into my head that I should not recover.

"One day a lady came into the shop, and noticing the state I was in, kindly asked how long I had been ill. I told her all about it, and she said 'You try Mother Seigel's Curative Syrup ; it has made me well, and I believe it will do you good.'

"I sent for a bottle, and after taking only a few doses I felt relieved. Presently my food agreed with me, and I enjoyed my meals. I could sleep better also, and by keeping on taking the Syrup I soon got as strong as I ever was in my life. Since that time (now over four years ago), I have been in the best of health. I consider that in all probability this remedy saved my life ; at all events, it restored my health, and life without health don't amount to much. I gladly consent to the publication of the statement, and will answer inquiries. Yours truly (Signed), G. VINCE, 142, Shepherd's Bush Road, London, W., November 30th, 1892."

Thus Mr. Vince's unfortunate experience comes to happy end. As he has to work for a living, like most of us, he is no doubt often tired, but never weary any more. And what can possibly be more wearisome than long-continued illness ? With him, as with millions, it was the stomach that was in fault. His food entered the stomach and stopped there. So he suffered from two bad results : he received no strength from it, but he did receive the deadly acids and gases which the fermented stuff gave birth to. Indigestion and dyspepsia. The same old story of pain and misery, and, thank mercy, the same story of restoration and gratitude after an appeal for help had been made to good old Mother Seigel.

* Mr. A. Yohannan writes me that at a place about a mile from his home in Oroomiah there is a pile of ashes from the fire-worshipers, and that the place is generally admitted by the people to have been the abode of Zeradusht.

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WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

VOL. XIV. CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, JUNE 1, 1895 WHOLE NO. 677.

THE BIRTHDAY HONOURS.

Knights Grand Cross of the Bath.

Lord Playfair; the Right Honourable Jas. Stansfeld, M. P. for Halifax; Generals Sir Michael Biddulph, Charles Gough, Sir Geo. Willis, Sir Drury Lowe; Admirals Sir William Montagu, Dowell, Earl Clanwilliam, and Sir Richard Vesey Hamilton.

Knight Commanders of the Bath.

Admirals Chas. Hotham, Robt. Fitzroy, Henry Tuson, Lieutenant-Colonel Arthur Bigge, Her Majesty's Private Secretary, N. R. O'Conor, the British Minister at Pekin.

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The Earl of Aberdeen and Sir Charles Mitchell

Knight Commanders of St. Michael and St George

Mr. Fowell. Buxton, and Mr Satow, late British Minister at Morocco

Companions of St. Michael and St George.

Mr Mitchell, Ceylon; Mr. Raphael Brog, British Consul at Cairo.

Knights.

Mr. Irving, actor; Mr. Besant, novelist, Mr. Conway, mountaineer, Lewis Morris, poet; Dr. William Howard Russell, journalist; and Mr. Hannen, Chief Justice of Shanghai.

STAR OF INDIA

Knights Grand Commanders

His Highness Mukutar-ul-Mulk Azim-ul Iktidar Rafi-ush Shan Wala Shikoh Mohtasham-I-Dauran Umdat-ul-Umra Maharajadhiraj Alijah Hisam-us-Saltanat Maharaja Madho Rao Sindhia Bahadur Srimath Mansur I-Zaman Fidvi-I-Haziat-I-Malika-I-Muazzama-I-Rafi-ud-Darjat-I-Inglistan of Gwalior.

The Right Honourable George Robert Canning, Baron Harris, G.C. I.E., late Governor of the Presidency of Bombay.

Knight Commander.

Lieutenant-General Sir William Stephen Alexander Lockhart, K.C.B, C.S.I, Bengal Infantry, Lieutenant-General Commanding the Forces of the Punjab.

Companions.

The Honourable Mr. Alan Cadell, Indian Civil Service, Senior Member of the Board of Revenue, North-Western Provinces and Oudh, and at present holding temporarily the appointment of Lieutenant-Governor of the North-Western Provinces and Chief Commissioner of Oudh.

The Honourable Sir Alexander Edward Miller, Kt., Q.C, Member of the Council of the Governor-General.

Charles Montgomery Rivaz, Esquire, Indian Civil Service, Second Financial Commissioner of the Punjab.

Arthur Forbes, Esquire, Indian Civil Service, Commissioner of the Patna Division, Bengal.

Kerala Varma Valiya Koil Tamburan, Consort of Her Highness Raja Rajeshwari Rani Lakshmi Bai Sahiba, C.I., Senior Rani of Travancore.

INDIAN EMPIRE.

Knights Commanders.

William Robert Brooke, Esquire, C.I.E., late Director-General of Telegraphs in India.

The Honourable Maharaja Partab Narayan Singh of Ajudhya, Oudh, an Additional Member of the Council of the Governor-General for making Laws and Regulations.

Maharaja Rivaneshwar Prashad Singh Bahadur of Gidhaur, late a Member of the Council of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal for making Laws and Regulations.

Sardar Krishna Rao Bapu Sahib Jadon, late President of the Council of Regency in the Gwalior State

Companions.

The Honourable Gangadhar Rao Madhav Chitnavis, an Additional Member of the Council of the Governor General for making Laws and Regulations.

The Honourable Rai Bahadur Venbakam Bashyam Aryangar, Vakil, High Court, Madras, and an Additional Member of the Council of the Governor of Madras for making Laws and Regulations.

The Honourable Mr. Charles Edward Bucklund, Indian Civil Service, Secretary to the Government of Bengal, General, Revenue, and Statistical Departments, and a Member of the Council of the Lieutenant Governor of Bengal for making Laws and Regulations.

Alexander Buckley Patterson, Esquire, Indian Civil Service, Commissioner, Northern India Salt Revenue.

Harry Arbuthnot Acworth, Esquire, Indian Civil Service, Municipal Commissioner for the City of Bombay.

Colonel Charles Arkcoll Porteous, Indian Staff Corps, late Inspector General of Police, Madras.

Colonel Clayton Turner Lane, Indian Staff Corps, Inspector-General of Police, Jails, Registration, and Stamps, Hyderabad Assigned Districts

Hkun Sung, the Sawbwa of Hsi Paw in Burma.

Steyning William Edgerley, Esquire, Indian Civil Service, Private Secretary to the Governor of Bombay.

Trichinopoly Riyalu Arakiaswami Tumboo Chetty, Chief Judge of the Chief Court of Mysore, and Member of the Mysore State Council

Khan Bahadur Maulvi Abdul Jubbar, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector of the 24-Parganas, and late a Member of the Council of the Lieutenant Governor of Bengal for making Laws and Regulations.

Captain William Richard Yelding, D.S.O, Indian Staff Corps, Assistant Commissary-General, on Special Duty in Kashmir.

Henry John Stanyon, Esquire, Barrister-at-Law, Advocate of the High Court, North-Western Provinces and Oudh, and President of the Jubbulpore Municipal Committee, Central Provinces

Munshi Hafiz Abdul Karim, Indian Secretary to Her Majesty the Queen, Empress of India.

INDIAN TITLES

Hereditary Nawab

Ahmad Baksh Khan Nagar, Sardar Bahadur, Pensioned Risaldar-Major of the 3rd Cavalry of the Hyderabad Contingent.

Maharaja.

His Highness Raja Vishwanath Singh Bahadur of Chattarpur, Bundelkhand, Central India.

Nawab.

Muhammad Ali Khan, Khan Bahadur, landowner, Bilandshahr in the North-western Provinces

Subscribers in the country are requested to remit by postal money orders, if possible, as the safest and most convenient medium, particularly as it ensures acknowledgment through the Department. No other receipt will be given, any other being unnecessary and likely to cause confusion.

Sahibzada Ghulam Ahmad Khan, late Member of the Gwalior Council of Regency.

Raja.

Mian Rugunath Singh, brother-in-law of His Highness the present Maharaja of Kashmir, and son-in-law of the late Maharaja.

Maharajkumar Binaya Krishna Deb of Sovabazar, Calcutta.

Kumar Norendro Lall Khan, of Narajole in Midnapore in the Bengal Presidency.

Dewan Bahadur.

The Hon'ble Rao Bahadur Bashyam Iyengar, Additional Member of the Legislative Council of the Governor of Madras.

Kanchi Krishnaswami Rao, Chief Justice of the Travancore State.

Khan Bahadur.

Jehangir Pestonji Vakil, of Ahmedabad in the Bombay Presidency.

Shah Nawaz Khan, retired Jemadar, 11th Bengal Lancers, Montgomery District, Punjab.

Munshi Ghulam Ahmad Khan, Extra Assistant Commissioner in the Punjab.

Hafiz Habi Baksh, Honorary Magistrate of Kasur in the District of Lahore in the Punjab.

Karamatullah Khan, Senior Hospital Assistant, Subordinate Medical Department, Bengal.

Kazi Ibrar Ahmad, Honorary Secretary, Moradabad Municipality in the North-Western Provinces.

Sheikh Mohiuddin, Surveyor, Survey of India Department.

Sardar Ghazi Khan, Lehri, of Baluchistan.

Azhar Hosein, 1st Grade Hospital Assistant in Assam.

Futteh Ali Khan, Subadar-Major, Burma Military Police.

Rao Bahadur.

Chittoor Wyravanather Thamodaram Pillai, late of the Accountant-General's Office in the Madras Presidency.

Bashkar Vishnu Phadke, President of the Municipality of Ratnagiri in the Bombay Presidency.

Rao Sahib Motiram Rajaram Vakil, late Deputy Educational Inspector in Surat in the Bombay Presidency.

Munshi Balmokand Das, Member of Council of the Alwar State in Rajputana.

Pundit Sukhdeo Persbad, Judicial Secretary in the Jodhpur State in Rajputana.

Krishna Rao Murlye, Superintendent of the Dewas State (Junior Branch).

Raghunath Rao Yadon Bhagwat, late Secretary to the Gwalior Council of Regency.

Rai Bahadur.

Lala Dilbagh Rai, Extra Assistant Commissioner in the Punjab.

Seth Sobhag Mull Duddha, of Ajmere.

Babu Hem Chunder Kerr, retired Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector in the Bengal Presidency.

Babu Madhab Chunder Roy, retired Executive Engineer, 1st grade, Public Works Department, Bengal.

Babu Omrita Nath Mitter, Presidency Magistrate in Calcutta.

Subadar-Major Jitman Gurung, Bengal Military Police, Lushai Battalion.

Babu Jogendro Kishore Rai Chowdhry, of Ramgopalpur in Mymensingh in the Bengal Presidency.

Babu Brahma Mohun Mullick, retired Inspector of Schools, Bengal.

Lala Nehal Chand, Member and Secretary, Municipal Board, Muzaffarnagar in the North-Western Provinces.

Thakur Narain Singh, landowner in Pardur in the Shahjahanpur District in the North-Western Provinces.

Lala Mangi Lal, Banker of Muttra in the North-Western Provinces.

Lal Singh, late Tahsildar in the North-Western Provinces.

Taradas Banerjee, President of the District Council and Municipal Committee of Raipur in the Central Provinces.

Narsingh Dass, Settlement Officer of the Jammu District.

Babu Grish Chundra Rai, Zamindar of Sylhet, in Assam.

Sardar Bahadur.

Mian Parduman Singh, of Ramgarh, Honorary Magistrate of Naraingarh in the District of Umballa in the Punjab.

Bhai Nihal Singh, Assistant District Superintendent of Police in the Punjab.

Rao Sahib.

Krishnarao Jayram, Pleader, in Malegaon in the Bombay Presidency.

Ambadas Santu, late Extra Assistant Commissioner in Berar.

Rai Sahib.

Seth Nathu Ram, of Harda in the Hoshangabad District in the Central Provinces.

Pandit Daji Ram Chandra, Hospital Assistant, Nagpur in the Central Provinces.

Bhai Basant Singh, Supervisor, Military Works Department, in Baluchistan.

Kyet thaye zaung shwe Salwe ya Min.

Hkun Se, Sawba of Keng Tung.

Maung Po Maung, Deputy Inspector of Schools in Burma.

Maung Kyi, Myoôk.

Ahmudan gaung Tazeik ya Min.

Maung Po, Ngwegunhmu of Hsa Mong Hkam.

Maung Shwe U, Inspector of Police.

WEEKLYANA.

IN the present Parliament, there are ten newspaper editors, six printers, and three stationers.

***

THE annual aggregate circulation of the newspapers of the world is calculated to be 12,000,000,000 copies, printed on 781,250 tons of paper, which would cover no fewer than 10,450 square miles of surface. Piled vertically upwards, they would top the highest of the Alps and reach the altitude of 500 miles. Such is the advance of printing!

***

IN the State of Kansas, in the United States, there is a journal called the *Williston Journal* which is edited by a lady, Mrs. Elizabeth Wilson, who writes all her editorials in rhyme. At Athens, a weekly journal under the charge of Georg Souis is written entirely in verse from beginning to end, including the advertisements. It consists of four pages of double columns, a page being ten by eight inches.

***

THE latest development of the phonograph is—that Sir B. W. Richardson dictated the whole of his twelve-page article for the *Asclepiad* into Messrs. Hazell, Watson, and Viney's instrument, from which it was set up in type. There was no other copy for the compositors.

***

AT Semlin, a frontier town on the Danube, about three miles from Belgrade, the Hungarian Customs authorities seized a large consignment of human bones on their way to a bone-boiling establishment near Vienna. Enquiry showed that they were the remains of Russian and Turkish soldiers killed in battle near Talar Bazardjik, in Eastern Roumelia, that they were disinterred by the owners of the soil without permission of the Government, and, mixed with the bones of animals, they were sold to the Vienna firm. The human bones were confiscated and re-buried, the importers fined two thousand florins and others concerned punished in other ways.

***

THE contract for the massive memorial to mark the resting place of the British officers murdered at Manipur on March 24, 1891, has been given to Messrs. W. Garstin and Sons, granite merchants, Aberdeen and London. It will be an obelisk monument, 30 feet high, of fine-axed, grey granite, built in courses. The lower base will be 10 feet square, the upper 8 feet, the pedestal 7 feet, and the cornice 8½ feet square, with chamfer and check mouldings. At the foot the spire will measure 8½ feet square, tapering to 3 feet at the top, finishing with an ornamental point. On each side of the pedestal there will be a sunk panel of red, polished granite. The panel in front will bear the following inscription, in capital letters, filled in with lead and gilded on the top:—

"The Government of India have caused this monument to be erected to mark the spot where rest the remains of the British officers who were murdered at Manipur, March 24, 1891—James Wallace Quinton, C.S.I., I.C.S.: Colonel Charles M'Dowal Skene, D.S.O., I.S.C.; Frank St. Clair Grimwood, I.C.S.; William Henry Cossins I.C.S.; Lieutenant Walter Henry Simpson, I.S.C. In the same grave are deposited the remains of Lieutenant Lionel Wilhelm Brackenbury, I.S.C., and of several soldiers of the 44th Goorkha Rifles, who fell in action at Manipur on the same day."

PETITIONS to Parliament are carried free by the Post Office. But there is a limitation. It has recently been found necessary to remind the public that no letter or postal packet of any kind except petitions for presentation can be delivered to a member of Parliament free unless the postage is prepaid; and that petitions for presentation to either House can only be delivered free if they are sent without covers or in covers open at the ends and without any accompanying letter or other enclosure. No such petition, however, is exempt from postage if it exceeds 2lb in weight.

* * *

THE Prince of Wales presided, on May 8, at the Imperial Institute, South Kensington, at the annual festival of the Printers' Pension, Almshouse, and Orphan Asylum Corporation. In proposing the toast of the evening, "Continued Prosperity to the Printers' Almshouse and Orphan Asylum Corporation," he said:

"I may wish to say a few words to you respecting the benefits which are conferred on mankind by the art of printing, and likewise respecting the physical condition of those engaged in the trade. We all must admit that the printing press plays a great and humane part in the civilisation of the world, and that the blessings derived by the community from the art of printing are of incalculable value. (Cheers.) These benefits follow us, indeed, from our very birth to our death. Through the printer's announcement in the newspapers our friends are made aware of our arrival in the world (laughter); by the aid of printing we receive our education and pursue our studies; through its assistance knowledge and amusement are provided for us; and when the end of life comes the printers record the fact, and in some cases print our biography. (Cheers) There is no walk of life that is not rendered easier and more useful by the invention of printing. (After alluding to the increase which had taken place in the circulation of printed matter since the repeal of the stamp and paper duties, his Royal Highness went on to say,)—I understand that the improvements which have been made in printing machinery have not, unfortunately, rendered the work of the printer much less unhealthy, although the Factory Acts have done a great deal, and the electric light something, to improve the sanitary conditions of the places in which printing is carried on. I regret, however, to hear that the men still suffer considerably from the impure atmosphere in which they have to work, and this, I am told, is proved by the fact that fifty-six per cent. of the deaths in the trade are due to diseases of the chest and throat. I am informed also, that the nature of a printer's work is exceptionally trying to his mental and physical powers. The close application required and the rapidity with which the work has often to be performed, especially in the case of the daily newspapers, cause an intense strain upon the nerves and brain, the result being that the powers of printers wear out more quickly than those of men engaged in most other trades, and they therefore become incapacitated or die. Considering that the community receives such enormous benefits from the art of printing, and that in practising that art the workmen sacrifice to a large extent their health as well as many comforts and pleasures, I do not think it is unreasonable to ask the public to give their assistance in providing for printers who have been rendered incapable by age or disease from any longer following their trade, and for the families of those who have died. (Cheers.) The Printers' Pension Corporation, three-fourths of the funds of which are subscribed by printers themselves, has this work in hand. What it has already done may be gathered from the annual reports, and it is to be hoped that one result of this festival will be a considerable augmentation in the funds of the corporation, in order that it may continue and extend its good work (Loud cheers.) Before I resume my seat I wish, ladies and gentlemen, to say one more word. It is a curious coincidence that at this moment my son is presiding at the Literary Fund dinner, a dinner which was the first public dinner at which I ever presided—(cheers)—so that on this occasion perhaps father and son are working together for one object—the younger for a great literary charity that has always been associated with the names of our most illustrious and distinguished men, and the older in trying to obtain funds for an institution which befriends those who work so hard in printing the valuable works which our literary men produce for us. (Cheers.) I will not keep you longer, ladies and gentlemen, but will now call upon you most cordially to drink the toast of 'The Continued Prosperity of the Printers' Pension, Almshouse, and Orphan Asylum Corporation,' and I trust that with this great gathering to-night a great augmentation to the funds of this excellent and meritorious institution will be received. (Loud cheers.)"

* * *

MR Belchambers, at the call of Mr. Justice Hill, made the following report on the expenses needed for the *Sapindikaran Shrad* of the late Kumar Inder Chunder Sing:—

"The Sapindikarana, without which the spirit of a Hindoo cannot find entrance into the ancestral region, is an indispensable rite, and should be performed strictly on the first anniversary of the day of death. It is a ceremony designed to introduce the deceased to the manes of his ancestors, as also to do them honour. It may be performed with munificene, or on the lowest scale. At this ceremony food and alms may be given to many persons and learned Brahmins may be invited from all parts of the country and honoured with liberal donations, or, where economy is necessary, much may be dispensed with. In the present case the sum originally asked for, Rs. 5,000, has been increased to Rs. 6,429. It appears from the evidence of Jogendra Chunder Singh that the directions of the family Pundit were not fully carried out; that one *sorosh*, with 400 brass *ghurras*, was altered into *soroshes (sic)*, with 200 brass *ghurras*. Only one *sorosh* should, I think, be allowed. I have therefore reduced the first item in the estimate by half. It also seems to me that some other items are capable of being moderated, and I purpose to reduce the item of 175 to 100, the item of 225 to 125, the item of 300 to 200, the item of 1,000 to 800, the item of 1,240 to 1,000, and the item of 125 to 50. The result will be to reduce the total sum of Rs. 6,429 to Rs. 5,145-14. The witnesses produced on behalf of the applicant have been cross-examined with the object of showing that the sum asked for is excessive. I have reduced the sum asked for to Rs. 5,145-14. The question whether this sum of Rs. 5,145-14 is excessive will depend upon the position of the deceased in Hindoo society and the value of the estate left by him. For the purposes of the present enquiry it was agreed that I should proceed upon the basis of a letter from the Administrator-General, in which it is stated that the net annual income of the estate is over two and-a-half lakhs; that there is a debt of ten lakhs secured by a mortgage; that on the 31st January last the interest due upon this debt amounted to Rs. 1,71,324-4-9; that other claims have been made against the estate amounting to Rs. 1,57,844-7. Taking the figures as given by the Administrator-General, the total amount would be Rs. 13,29,168. An estate, the net income of which is over two and-a-half lakhs, would at sixteen years' purchase, be of the value of 40 lakhs. If Rs. 13,29,168 be deducted from this sum, the balance would be Rs. 26,80,832. The deceased occupied a leading position in Hindoo society, and having regard to the value of the residue of the estate left by him, the estimated expenses for the performance of this ceremony amounting to Rs. 5,145-14, cannot, from a Hindoo point of view, be deemed lavish, or more than proper."—*I. D News.*

MR. Belchambers is an invaluable officer. There was, we believe, a recommendation from some quarter to raise him to the Bench. When his time was about to be up, a representation from the attorneys went up to retain him or to appoint a joint Registrar that the ripe experience of the present Registrar might not be entirely lost, specially as there was no man to replace him, who combines in himself all the functions of the High Court except those of the Judges. He is retained in his posts for which he is physically as fit now as he was ten years back. It is not enough that he is charged with so many offices in and out of Court. He must be a Pundit too and give *vyvasthas* on shrads and other Hindu ceremonies.

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NOTES & LEADERETTES,

OUR OWN NEWS,

&

THE WEEK'S TELEGRAMS IN BRIEF, WITH OCCASIONAL COMMENTS

SARDAR Nasrulla Khan is being received in England as a sovereign prince. Full royal honours attend him in all his movements. A detachment of the Blues has been selected for his escort. He inspected the Dockyard at Portsmouth where he landed and reviewed six thousand troops, after which he proceeded by special train to London. There he was met by Lord Carrington, who welcomed him on behalf of the Queen. Great enthusiasm was displayed at the station and by the spectators along the route. The prince attended the trooping of the colours on horseback on Queen's Birthday, riding between the Prince of Wales and the Duke of Connaught. The Sirdar met with an immense reception from the crowd, and on every hand evidence was shown of the great popularity of his visit. During the afternoon the Prince of Wales and the Duke of York paid a visit to Dorchester House, and remained in conversation with the Amir's son for half an hour. Prince Nasrulla dined at the India Office on May 25, a brilliant company being present, including Prince Henry of Battenburg, Lord Reay, Lord Harris, and Lord [illegible]. On May 27, the Prince had half an hour's audience with the Queen at Windsor. The Duke of Connaught received the Amir at the sovereign's entrance and presented him to her Majesty. The audience was observed with full court honours. Prince Nasrulla was conducted ceremoniously to the room where the Queen and other members of the Royal family were seated. The Queen received the Prince with the greatest cordiality, and motioned him to a seat on the right hand of the throne. The Prince then rose and read a letter from the Amir dwelling upon the excellent relations existing with Her Majesty's Government. After concluding, he, speaking for himself, expressed very great gratification at the cordiality of his reception, both by the general public and in private, at

arrival in England, and hoped that the relations between the Queen and the Amir would always be of a friendly nature. Her Majesty replied reciprocating these cordial wishes, when the audience terminated. After the ceremony, the Prince returned immediately to London to be present at a levée held by the Prince of Wales. Next day, Lord Roberts and Sir Donald Stewart visited Sirdar Nasrulla Khan and met with a most cordial reception.

In the account two things arrest our attention. There was a distinction in the Queen's reception of Sirdar Nasarulla and that of the Shah Nasiruddin. At the same Castle, on June 20, 1873, Her Majesty herself received the Prince of Persia at the sovereign's entrance. The difference may be due to the difference of status of the two royal visitors. The one was a ruler himself, the other, though of the blood royal, only represented one. The other remark that suggests itself is that while the Amir avoided Lord Roberts, the son had a most cordial reception for him. Here, again, the difference of places perhaps accounts for the anomaly.

THE situation in the Far East between Russia and Japan appears to be again assuming an alarming gravity. It is stated that Russia is forming close political relations with Corea, and is about to demand the withdrawal of the Japanese troops from that country.

SIR William Harcourt, replying to several questions in the House of Commons, said that the Government was everywhere acting in cordial co-operation with France and Russia, although it was not the policy of the Government to form an alliance with any group of Powers in Europe or elsewhere. At the annual banquet of the London Chamber of Commerce, held on May 29, Sir Edward Grey, replying to the toast of the Government, said that the reports that had been, and were still being, circulated regarding an early dissolution of Parliament, were simply myths. Referring to foreign affairs, he stated that the Great Powers were acting conjointly to prevent any friction in the East that might lead to a rupture of the peace. The Japanese Minister, who was one of the guests at the banquet, declared that Japan only desired fair play and a share of the world's commerce. He thanked Great Britain for the striking proofs of the good-will which she had exhibited towards the Japanese.

A REPUBLIC has been proclaimed at Formosa with Tang, the Chinese ex-Governor as President. The independence of the island has been formally notified to the foreign Powers. A Japanese fleet has arrived at Tamsui, the chief port, and Japanese troops have landed at Taipehfu. The Japanese warships are bombarding Kneelung.

WHEN, in the House of Commons, on May 24, Sir Joseph Pease brought forward his resolution for abolishing the cultivation and the sale of opium, Mr. Fowler, Secretary of State for India, warmly opposed it as being flagrantly unjust to India. A division resulted in the resolution being rejected by a hundred and seventy-six votes against fifty-nine.

LORD Salisbury, in the course of a speech at Bradford, referred to the Armenian atrocities, and deprecated the use of mere words dealing with the question, unless the country was prepared to employ force to secure the amelioration of the condition of the Armenians. Otherwise silence was best.

JABEZ SPENCER BALFOUR has been committed for trial.

MR. Oscar Wilde has been sent to jail. The jury returned a verdict of guilty and the Judge sentenced him to two years' imprisonment with hard labour. Alfred Taylor, whose sentence was deferred, has now received a similar penalty.

THE Conference of German Bankers has passed a resolution protesting against any change being made in the currency laws for the purpose of favouring silver. A resolution was also recorded deploring the probability of Germany joining in any Monetary Conference. England also sticks to gold. Sir William Harcourt, replying to a memorial presented by prominent merchants and bankers of London, said that the Government was resolved firmly to adhere to the single gold standard in any discussion whereto it might be invited.

TWENTY-ONE British men-of-war under the command of Admiral Seymour, have arrived at Alexandria. The fleet will be visited by the Khedive, and many great fetes have been arranged for during the stay of the squadron.

THE Duke of Cambridge opened, on May 27, at Earl's Court, the Empire of India Exhibition.

MR. Fowler, replying to a deputation of Lancashire cotton operatives, asked for a written statement embodying their views on the specific question whether the cotton duties were of a protective character, which document he undertook to transmit to India for the consideration of that Government, and would afterwards communicate its reply. Mr. Fowler would have treated the deputation better if he had not received it at all. But it deserved no better.

THE new British battleship Terrible, which will be the largest ironclad afloat and one hundred feet longer than any other British man-of-war, has been successfully launched on the Clyde.

OWING to the hostility of King Menelek towards the Italians, Great Britain, at the request of the Italian Government, has forbidden the importation of arms into Abyssinia through the ports on the Somali coast.

TWO disasters by sea are reported. The Pacific mail steamer Colima has been wrecked on the coast of Mexico. Nineteen persons have been saved, and a hundred and seventy drowned. The French emigrant steamer Dorpedro, while on a voyage to Argentina foundered off Carril. There were eighty passengers on board at the time, all of whom were drowned, together with twenty-two of the crew. The Captain and twenty-six of the crew were saved.

LORD Resebery has not yet thoroughly recovered. He has been recommended further rest, and goes on another yachting cruise for ten days.

STIRRING intelligence has been received from Jeddah. The Bedouins outside that town, on May 30, attacked the British Consul and Vice-Consul, the Russian Consul, and the French Consular Secretary. The British Vice-Consul was shot dead and the British Consul wounded. The Russian and French representatives were also seriously injured. We hope the report is not true.

SUBSCRIPTIONS are being collected from the old students and members of the staff of the Coopers Hill College, for a memorial to Sir George Chesney, who was a staunch friend of the institution. The amount is limited to one gold mohur. It has been ascertained from Lady Chesney that nothing would gratify her more than a monument over her husband's grave in S. Jude's Cemetery at Englefield Green, not far from the College. The family of the late distinguished publicist Mr Robert Knight resented the suggestion of a monument over his grave in Calcutta to be paid for out of the Knight Memorial Fund. They said it was their duty to erect a suitable stone to mark his resting place and they would do it; let the public show their regard for the dead by raising some other monument. The preferences of Lady Chesney are those of an Indian Vicerene who had desired that the surplus of the fund raised for a memorial to her husband might be utilized in repairing her English residence.

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THE result of the Mooktearship examination held by the High Court in the first week of March last, is published in the last week of May. There were 1,163 candidates and of this number only 149 have succeeded. The large per centage of failure must be due, in some measure, to the indefiniteness of the non-statutory part of the curriculum laid down. For instance, with regard to Mahomedan Law, the list of text books prescribed includes no book actually existing in Bengali on the subject. The candidates, though they are as a rule utterly ignorant of English, are required to master Baillie's Digest of Mohamedan Law, a rare and costly book, that is quite beyond the capacity and requirements of the Mooktearship candidates. While Ameer Ali's manual containing only about 130 pages of letter-press (crown octavo,) is deemed sufficient for the Pleadership and B. L. tests, it is inconceivable how the authorities could prescribe Baillie's learned digest, containing nearly 2,000 closely printed demy octavo pages, for the lower Mooktearship. A great deal of the intricacies of Mahomedan law, as contained in Baillie's work, has become quite obsolete under British rule, and the wisdom of requiring the Mooktearship candidates to master such a book cannot be obvious to any ordinary mind. Perhaps, it was an oversight. The sooner it is set right, the better.

WITH regard to Hindu law, the books laid down for the mooktears are the Daybhaga, the Mitakshara and Dattaka Chandrika. These are no doubt original authorities. But they are all in Sanskrit, and the candidates are not all expected to have that mastery over Sanskrit which is necessary in studying the treatises on law in our ancient classical language. It is evidently intended that Bengali translations should be read by those unacquainted with Sanskrit. No particular translations, however, are recommended and the publishers who supply the text books generally give them mere empty phials with gilded labels. A genuine and honest translation of a Sanskrit treatise on law must appear to be a little too stiff to the class of students who appear in the Mooktearship examination, and they are easily led to prefer the utterly worthless compilations brought out anonymously by the shrewd publishers of this town.

THE hardest troubles of the candidates are due to the clumsy and utterly meaningless style of the Bengali translations of the statutory law which they are required to master. A good many of the codes still in force became law and were translated at the time when the late Mr. Robinson was the head of the translation department of the Bengal Secretariat. It is long since that prodigy of Bengali scholarship has retired from his post. Some of the underlings trained in his school are still in the service. And whether on that account, or for some occult reason not known to the public, the translations subsequently turned out have, in some instances at least, been very nearly in the Robinsonian style. With such a staff as the Bengal Secretariat now possesses, the public might surely expect better work. A thorough revision of authorised translations of the statute law is urgently required, not for the Mooktearship candidates only, but in the interest of the general public also. Ignorance of law being no excuse for its infraction, due facilities ought certainly to be given for its study by all classes.

THE order, to be found elsewhere, of Mr Justice Sale exposes certain practices which, we are afraid, are not rare. The appointment of Receivers and other appointments in connection with private estates, need careful supervision. This is not the time nor are we disposed to take up the subject. We may do so on a future occasion. We will only remark in the present instance that, if Judges were always as enquiring as Justice Sale or Justice White or Justice Phear, there would perhaps not have been any occasion for the present order. We saw a will with the provision that the attorney of the testator should continue to be the attorney of the executors. Probate of the will was recently granted. It does not appear that the clause had attracted the notice of the Judge.

THE heat has been excessive in Calcutta. Men and animals have died of it. A heavy downpour last night considerably cooled the atmosphere but flooded the houses and streets. It was no flood, mind you. It only proved the incapacity of the sewers to drain the water quickly. The gratings were in no time choked and the water found no escape into the drains. It is growing hot again.

THE indignation expressed by Mr. P. le Page Renouf at "The Book of the Dead," quoted elsewhere, is just. It is not to be said of him that, because he has been replaced by the author in the British Museum, he is so severe. As an Egyptian scholar of world-wide reputation, he could not pass over the perfunctory performance of his successor. Nor does he speak of his own accord. He was invited to speak out, and he would not be just to himself if he kept silent.

Mr Renouf is another victim of the superannuation rules, which could not have been intended to apply against specialists not physically unfit, like Renouf, Rieu, or Rost. Although in full mental vigour, he had to make room for Mr. Budge, a pushing man and in high favour with the Principal Librarian. It was he who had recommended to the Trustees the costly publication of which Mr. Renouf complains. The present Government seem bent on pensioning off their most deserving and most distinguished officers to provide for their own favourites however incompetent and incapable. They strictly enforce the rule to give to party what was meant for mankind.

MR. Harry Lee is dead. Mr. J. G. Ritchie has been confirmed as Chairman of the Calcutta Corporation. The Corporation befittingly mourned the loss of its Chairman on Thursday. The office was closed and the Commissioners recorded a resolution lamenting the death, arranging for a memorial, and postponing the regular business of the meeting to next day. Mr. Ritchie paid a graceful tribute to the memory of Mr. Lee. Several members representing various sections of the community spoke, bearing testimony to the goodness of the deceased. Coming after Sir Henry Harrison, Mr. Lee suffered much by comparison but he was rapidly making up. He was liked by all—Commissioners and officers and clerks, and was attentive to his duties. He was in the best of health when he joined the Municipality, and when he went on leave, no body knew that his end was near. He died of cancer from which there is no escape. When the disease was known, he was patiently expecting death. It was indeed once rumoured that he was dead. He took an extension of leave and ceased to live immediately after.

ANOTHER regrettable loss is the death of the scholarly Baboo Krishna Behary Sen, M.A., Rector, Albert College. A good soul he will be mourned by all who knew him. Although he cast in his lot with his brother, the late Keshub Chunder Sen, he was careful not to be led away by the pretentions of a new religion and avoided the temptations to the last. Having embraced Brahmoism, he lived and died a true Brahmo,—an example to others. He did not mix himself in the schism that followed Keshub's death. Quiet and unobtrusive, he did his duties without any fuss. A gentleman of the press, his views were moderate. The *Liberal* under him was truly liberal. He avoided bitterness and always tried to be just. It is rarely that such a man attracts the attention of Government. He was, however, fortunate. He was not only made a Fellow of the University but was also given a seat on the Abkari Commission.

MR. G. A. Grierson is a philosopher and no mistake. He dabbles in Sanskrit and Urdu and is credited with knowing more about the Hindus and Mussalmans that any other Bengal Civilian. His zeal, however, in the cause of sanitation and architectural beauty is very great. He has signalised his administration at Howrah by starving a large number of men who have business to transact in the Civil and Criminal Courts of the station. One must eat if one is to live; and as regards eating, we think, it is generally allowed that people are free to eat what they like, when they like, and how they like, provided they do not break those rules of decency and politeness which, above others, distinguish man from the brute creation. "Animals feed, but man eats" was one of the solemn aphorisms enunciated by the distinguished gourmand Brillat Savarin. Eating is an intellectual act; at least, there is as much of intellectuality in it as of the mere animal. Mr Grierson's philosophy, however, is not for admitting this freedom or intellectuality in eating. The people of his jurisdiction must feed or gorge their stomachs according to rules and in places provided by his wisdom. A few small wooden stalls are all that one would find in the neighbourhood of the Cutchery buildings at Howrah. These must cater to the creature comforts of suitors and their friends. None of these stalls is roomy. There are no arrangements in any of them for preparing the kind of food one may order. The vendors are all upcountry Hindustanees who are generally noted for their love of filth. They take their supplies from the market.

An orthodox Hindu, if desirous of eating, must enter one of these stalls and make his choice of only such articles as are exhibited there for sale and as have been prepared, for aught he knows, many days before He must further make up his mind to eat, exposed the while to the gaze of a miscellaneous crowd gathered in front of the stalls, and running the risk of being touched by others entering those pigeon-holes for the same purpose. Hinduism is still a living force. No wonder that hundreds of men who have business to transact at the Howrah Cutchery and who care for religion or health or decency, entirely abstain from eating anything for the whole day than eat what is offered under such conditions. There are Cutcheries at the head-quarters of all the Districts and all the Sub-Divisions of Bengal. Nowhere, however, have men to fast as at Howrah in consequence of the hobby horse that Mr. Grierson is disposed to ride to death, and that is connected, as he believes, with sanitation and architectural beauty. The explanation of Mr. Grierson's singular attitude towards hungry suitors and their friends is his inability to bear the sight of native sweetmeat shops which he considers to be too ugly to be tolerated in the vicinity of the Civil and Criminal Courts of the realm. Mr. Grierson deserves a pat on the back from the Finance Minister for his efforts to augment the public revenue. It is true that the source is not very elastic and does not yield much. For all that, there can be no question that the revenue derived from these wooden stalls or pigeon-holes is at least four times as great as the legitimate interest on the expenditure incurred by the State on their construction. The Hon'ble Babu Mohiny Mohun Roy is desirous of applying the rule of Damdupat generally in all suits for recovery of loans, and almost all his colleagues in the Council were agreeable to his views. We think the Hon'ble Member will serve a more useful purpose by applying such a rule to State investments. The State in India, if not exactly a money-lender, is at least an investor for profit. The best part of the matter is that Mr Grierson, after having invested State funds on the construction of his pigeon-holes, lets them out upon a system of public bids like an Abkari Collector knocking down an Opium or a Doasta shop. Seriously speaking, such petty tyranny deserves to be promptly put down. This crusade against native shops, which, whatever their faults, are roomy enough to admit dozens of persons at the same time, of different castes, and which enable them to gratify one of the most powerful of nature's cravings under the conditions sanctioned by usage and religion, is perfectly foolish and meaningless. A Magistrate who devotes his energies and time to such little matters as the best plan for constructing and letting the sweet-meat shops about his Cutchery, is scarcely the person who can be expected to attend to his graver duties. The Cutchery grounds at Howrah are sufficiently spacious, more spacious than at Hooghly Plots of land may easily be marked out wherein the tenants themselves may be allowed to erect their shops without the State playing the role of a letter of houses.

In England, they are reforming the marriage law and the law regarding the marriage of divorced persons. A Bill to amend the Matrimonial Causes Act, 1857, has been read a first time in the House of Lords.

In India, fresh attempts are being made to reduce the marriage expenses. The Punjab Government made the first move. The Bengal Government follows in its wake. We quote the Punjab letter. It explains itself:

"The Lieutenant-Governor has had for some time under consideration the question of the extravagant expenditure on marriage and funeral ceremonies, which is one of the chief factors in producing hopeless indebtedness in the Punjab, especially among the agricultural classes, and has come to the conclusion that fresh efforts should be made by the Government and its officers to bring about a reduction of that expenditure, if possible.

(2) Sir Dennis Fitzpatrick observes, from the replies received to certain enquiries made unofficially by Sir James Lyall, that the opinion entertained by some of the officers of the Commission is that, the matter being one of those which can be effectually dealt with only by the people themselves, it is not desirable that the Government or its officers should take any prominent part in it, but should leave it to the people themselves to move, and his Honor quite admits that in the case of most questions of social reform it is better for the Government and its officers to stand aloof; but the question now referred to seems to stand on an entirely exceptional footing.

(3) So far as the Lieutenant-Governor has observed or can learn, there appears to be, [illegible] something like a complete unanimity among the people [illegible] regarding the expenses in question, and the only difficulty seems to be that every one is afraid to be the first to [illegible] lest his example may not [illegible] and he may thus find himself left alone, marked [illegible] pays more than, and exposed to the jeers and taunts of the wretched class of hangers-on who profit by lavish expenditure on ceremonial occasions.

(4) The remedy for this, constantly suggested by the leading men among the people, is that the Government should pass a legislative enactment laying down rules to limit expenditure on such occasions, and providing a penalty for the infringement of those rules. It is said that if such an enactment were passed it would be easier for people to limit their expenditure, as it would then be plain to all that they were doing so, not through any parsimonious feeling, but in obedience to the law; and, moreover, as all would have to obey the law, there would be no danger of any individual being placed in the awkward and trying position above referred to. His Honor believes that if a measure of this sort were proposed by the Government it would meet with a considerable amount of support from the people themselves, and though he is not at present prepared to go so far as to propose such a measure, he is decidedly of opinion that Government and its officers ought to do more than they do at present to support and encourage those persons who desire to bring about this important reform.

(5) Sir Dennis Fitzpatrick thinks that it would, at least to some extent, aid the cause of that reform if it were made clear to the people that the Government was strongly impressed with the necessity for it, and would view with approbation and favour those who might exert themselves to bring it about. If District Officers, when they saw an opening, were to suggest to leading men the desirability of establishing committees and laying down rules regarding expenses, as has been done in some districts, and were, moreover, to arrange (for this would be essential) that the committees should report periodically on the working of these rules and the extent to which they were observed; and if it came to be understood that on the many occasions on which a District Officer has to estimate the relative worth or compare the claims of several candidates, for honorary offices or distinctions, some consideration would be given to assistance rendered in promoting this important reform and to adherence to the rules laid down for carrying it out.

(6) His Honor would therefore be glad if Commissioners and Deputy Commissioners would see what they can do towards giving effect to these views during the next camping season, and would submit a report of their action at the beginning of the next financial year.

(7) There is one point which is repeatedly brought out in the correspondence, and which formed the subject of a representation made to the Lieutenant-Governor some time ago at Umballa, where Mr. Gladstone interested himself very much in this subject, and that is that it is impossible for the inhabitants of any tract of country to reduce their marriage expenses in cases where they intermarry with the inhabitants of another tract of country, unless the inhabitants of the latter tract are prepared to fall in with their rules. The result of this must be that all measures of reform in this direction undertaken in British territory must remain to a certain extent ineffectual, unless the Rulers of adjoining Native States are prepared to co-operate. Sir Dennis Fitzpatrick observes that in some of the Rajputana States the question of such reforms has been taken up, and that in a more systematic manner than it has been in British India, and he is therefore not without a hope that the Rulers of the Punjab States may be willing to interest themselves in the matter. A copy of this circular will accordingly be forwarded to them for information and for any action they may think expedient towards introducing the reform, which is admitted on all hands to be so much needed."

The Bengal Government has addressed a similar letter for opinion of recognized associations:—

"I am directed to invite attention to the accompanying copy of a circular No. 24, dated the 20th September 1894, which has been issued by the Punjab Government, regarding the reduction of marriage expenses, and to request that your association will be good enough to favour Government with an early expression of its views on the subject.

(2) The Lieutenant-Governor would be glad to know how far any body of opinion exists in favour of reducing such expenditure, and whether any of the leaders of Native society are prepared to put themselves at the head of any such movement. His Honor is much impressed with the desirability of such reform, and would be glad if it could be carried out in Bengal; but it must be understood that Government and its officers cannot do more than co-operate with the influential members of the community, who must necessarily take the lead in a matter of this kind. If any of the leaders will start the movement Government will gladly help in any way it properly can."

REIS & RAYYET.

Saturday, June 1, 1895

THE FOREIGN POLICY OF THE BRITISH INDIAN GOVERNMENT.

From a time anterior to the annexation of the Punjab the foreign policy of the Government of India have chiefly been concerned with Afghanistan. Thibet i beyond the inaccessible wall formed by the Himalayas Attempts have fitfully been made, it is true, to open the country to British commerce, but the jealousy o the Thibetans having baffled every one of those attempts, the British Indian Government have paid very little attention to the political affairs of th country. China is too far removed from India, and besides her inability to cope with the British power

the possibility of China's making a way to India through the unknown regions on the north-east of Assam has always been too remote to occupy British Indian statesmen for many seconds of time with the thought of providing against danger to the empire from that quarter. Bhootan, as suspected at first and afterwards proved by the mission of 1864, is a weak kingdom where authority is divided between a spiritual and a temporal power. Full of insolence, because ignorant of the resources of the British power, the Bhooteas used to make incursions into British territory, but the military expedition despatched after failure of the Eden mission taught them a lesson which went home into their hearts. Since then, Bhootan has not been a bad neighbour. A little Sikim war impressed that small mountain kingdom, whose position was exceedingly anomalous, with the irresistible might of the British and prevented from that time the possibility of any trouble to British subjects from the raid of the Sikimpati's people. Of all the cis-Himalayan kingdoms, Nepal has all along occupied the first position. The collision that occurred between the British and the Nepalese early in the century ultimately led to the establishment of satisfactory relations between the two powers. The assistance that the Nepalese Prime Minister gave to Britain during the Sepoy revolt served to cement the friendship between the two Governments and, although a British Resident has always watched the state of affairs in Nepal, yet the measure of interference as regards the internal administration of that country has never been large. The continuance of that friendship has always enabled the British Government to draw the best part of its native soldiery from that country. Burma used now and then to cause some anxiety in consequence of other European nations seeking to plant a footing in that country. But the military power of the descendants of Alompra became exceedingly feeble compared to that of the chief who had conquered Pegu and Tenasssarim and who created an empire, with Ava as its capital, capable of disturbing the peace of neighbours. Then, again, Ava was soundly beaten with all Asia witnessing the vigour of the arm that dealt the blow. For some years, the Court of Ava continued to behave properly, resolved to effect by diplomacy what it could no longer hope to accomplish by force. It intrigued with France and Italy, hoping to derive some advantage from those dealings, although it never gave up counting the British power for bringing about a surrender of Pegu and Tenassarim. Lord Dalhousie's celebrated reply, however, which Earl Mayo had to repeat in a modified from, *viz.*, that as long as the sun shines in the heavens, so long shall the British flag float over Pegu and Tenassarim, crushed the hope of Burmese statesmen to obtain back by any means what they had to cede as the price of their folly. British statesmen felt little anxiety about Burma, so that when it was resolved that Burma should cease to exist as an independent power, there was nothing to impede the execution of that resolution. Practically, therefore, Afghanistan is the one country in Asia which has occupied the serious attention of British statesmen. All the great invaders and conquerors of India penetrated into the country through Afghanistan. Some were supplied by Afghanistan itself. The people are sturdy and fierce. Many of their customs, concerning them, that are geographically [illegible] India, are perfectly lawless. Their native mountains can scarcely yield them the means of life. Poverty and want compel them to look to plunder as a legitimate source of supplying their wants. They live in some sort of tribal organisation, nominally owning allegiance to the sovereign of the country. Crossing their frontiers they frequently raid into British territory and, when pursued by a stronger force, fly into their own mountains which are generally inaccessible. The British Government may send punitive expeditions against them without being at war with their nominal sovereign. Treaties are frequently made with their chiefs which are supposed to bind them as well, but, as a matter of fact, they behave decently only as long as they retain the memory of the vengeance exacted last from them by the British expeditionary columns.

Leaving out this factor of border tribes, Afghanistan as a political kingdom, having a definite Government representing the people in general, has, within the last quarter of a century, come to be invested with an importance that is entirely new. The fear of a Russian invasion of India, though it has existed in a modified form for more than a century, has, without referring to the fever-heat to which it rose during the administration of Lord Auckland, taken definite shape only within the last five and twenty years. The extension by Russia of her Asiatic dominions and their consolidation have brought the occurrence of a British Indian imbroglio with Russia within the domain of practical politics. Every advance that Russia has made has lessened the distance between her Empire and British India. The rectification of the Indian frontier, or as the expression came to be subsequently modelled, by the most imaginative of British Ministers, a scientific frontier for India, was not heard of till Russophobia became a general and confirmed malady of British statesmen. A history of the policy pursued towards Afghanistan and towards the other peoples inhabiting the regions through which the advance has been regarded as possible of a Russian army of invasion, is fraught with interest. That interest, it may be said, deepens in view of the Chitral imbroglio from which the Government has not yet emerged.

We will not refer to the silly acts of Lord Auckland's administration for counteracting the spread of Russian influence in Asia. History has pronounced its verdict. The whole of the Afghan policy, from first to last, of Lord Auckland, was a tissue of folly. With the mission to civilize and too strong to be resisted by any of the tribes in her Asiatic frontier, nothing could be more natural for Russia than the extension of her Asiatic empire. Any attempt, therefore, to resist the progress of Russia in that direction must be looked upon as folly. In the thirties, Russia had not entered into her career of Asiatic conquest. What she sought was the maintenance and extension of her legitimate influence. The British statesmen of the time endeavoured to oppose even this policy. Some of the projects were utterly chimerical. The principal one was to bring Afghanistan completely within British influence by sending out a military expedition. It was resolved to take advantage of one those interminable feuds which [illegible] the political history of Afghanistan. Preparations were made on a fairly extensive scale. After the first successes, which were splendid, an unprecedented disaster overtook the British arms. The entire invading force was annihilated. Lord Auckland's [illegible] were paralysed. His successor, Lord

Ellenborough, exacted signal vengeance and re-established the reputation of British arms in Asia. With the murder of Shah Shoojah, the policy was played out of placing a ruler at Cabool friendly to British interests. It was abundantly demonstrated that the British cause was regarded by the people as hostile to the national cause, and that any ruler whom the British power would support by subsidies of money and arms, and by British contingents either stationed in the country or ready to march into it for punishing his enemies, would become thoroughly hateful to the people. After its evacuation by the army of vengeance, Afghanistan was left to itself. The policy, as it came to be called, of "masterly inactivity" was adopted. Considering the peculiar nature of the Afghan people, that policy was unquestionably the soundest. The prospects of political parties in Afghanistan change with a rapidity that is remarkable. Situations prove exceedingly slippery. No permanence can be hoped for in the maintenance of treaty obligations. These facts were well understood by those who recommended the policy of non-interference in Afghan affairs. Unfortunately, the fear of Russia again operated to unsettle the minds of the British. The field abandoned by British might be occupied by Russian diplomacy. To have a friendly Afghanistan, to make its ruler strong, to subsidise him with both money and arms, so that it might make a good buffer against an invading foe, was once more resolved upon. Among the later Viceroys no one was more afflicted with Russophobia than Lord Lytton. The ruler of Afghanistan was accused of receiving a Russian mission with honour after he had refused to receive a British mission. Other acts were imputed to him which showed that, while disposed to favour the Russian cause, he was hostile to British interests. Afghanistan was once more invaded by a British force marching by three routes. British arms succeeded. The ruler of the country fled and soon after died. One of his sons was placed on the throne and, notwithstanding past experience, a British Resident forced upon him. That brave officer fell a victim to Afghan wrath. A new war of vengeance and the deportation of the ruler to British India followed. Abdur Raman was then placed on the throne and he is still ruling the country. He is supposed to be friendly to the British and is subsidised with money and arms. Treaties have been made with him and the late Foreign Secretary of the Government of India is regarded to have achieved a brilliant diplomatic triumph whose effect has been the establishment of relations more cordial than ever. Russia, it is believed, has been effectually checkmated in that direction.

So Abdur Rahman rules, recognised by the British Government and supported by British influence and money. If a rising takes place and Abdur Rahman loses both his throne and life, it is not known whether the British Government will send an army to his country for punishing his slayer and successor. The terms of the last treaty have been kept secret. The probability is that the successful competitor will be cordially shaken by the hand by a British envoy especially despatched for bearing to him some valuable presents with the assurance of British recognition and support. Even this is regarded as a policy of wisdom. It has, we have seen, been adopted in the case of Nepal. At Chitral also the same programme was played out after the murder of the Mehtar who had been ruling with British recognition. It will, we may be sure, be adopted towards Afghanistan. Asiatic peoples are incapable of differentiating such a policy from what they call insincerity. Can Abdur Rahman have the heart to play the sincere friend of the British Government with the conviction always present in his mind that if misfortune overtakes him and if, like so many of his predecessors, he has to fly before a successful rising headed by some ambitious chief or prince, the latter, immediately after his ascending the throne, will fill Abdur Rahman's place in the affections of his English allies and friends? Asia is not the field for the adoption of such a policy.

Letter to the Editor.

A CURE FOR SNAKE-BITE.

Sir,—Since the publication in your paper, of my letter on this subject, applications for the newly discovered remedy have been pouring in from far and wide. But the plant being very rare and, slow of growth, it is impossible to meet the heavy demand and although I have taken the necessary precaution to distribute it only among medical men and a few others in small quantities, yet the stock in hand has been almost exhausted. I shall therefore thank your readers to wait until its properties (and it seems to possess more than one) are verified authoritatively.

As soon as it passess successfully through the ordeal of medical test, (of which a due notice will be given to the public) its cultivation on an extensive scale will be taken in hand, and your readers may rest assured that their applications for its supply will be scrupulously attended to.

Thanking you for your kind support in the interest of humanity,—Yours, &c.,

N. M. Khory,
Sailana, C. I.

THE BOOK OF THE DEAD.

[The Papyrus of Ani in the British Museum. The Egyptian text, with interlinear transliteration and translation, a running translation, introduction, &c. By E. A. Wallis Budge, Litt. D., Keeper of Egyptian and Assyrian Antiquities. (Printed by order of the Trustees.)]

Two evening papers containing highly enthusiastic notices of Mr. Budge's translation of the Ani papyrus have been sent to me by persons who felt sure of the deep interest I must take in the startling revelations promised in this publication.

One of the notices, which is anonymous, sums up its estimate of the book by prophesying that "it will remain a masterpiece of hieroglyphical scholarship" Writers as well as readers ought fully to understand that the number of critics at all qualified to judge of the merits of "hieroglyphic scholarship" is extremely limited, and that not one of them is likely to write anonymously Reputations founded either on self-assertion or on anonymous puffing are till now unknown to Egyptology.

The other notice, which speaks of Mr. Budge's work as "one of the most important that has been issued in this country," bears the name of a gentleman known as an Assyriologist. But acquaintance with cuneiform texts is hardly good security for competence in criticising "hieroglyphic scholarship." The pious feelings of Mr. Boscawen are in deep sympathy with certain Egyptian texts, of which he assumes that Mr. Budge has given the exact meaning. If he himself knew these texts in the original, he would be aware that "if thou art a farmer, labour in that field which God hath given thee" does not exist in Egyptian words, but takes the meaning of them from a French "crib." M. Virey, the French translator, took his version (not quite confidently) from the Latin of the late Prof. Lauth, who had mistaken the grammatical construction of the entire sentence. This error here, indeed, does not affect the use of the Egyptian word for "god." But when from the Papyrus Prisse we pass on to the Pyramid Texts, where Mr. Budge has used M. Maspero's translation as a "crib," and talks of the deceased as being "in heaven, by the side of God," as sitting on a great throne "by the side of God," or of "those who follow in the train of God," or when he cites the "Ladder of God," he not only misrepresents the theology of the Egyptian texts, but gives his readers interpretations of them which M. Maspero never intended to convey. Neither the Pyramid Texts nor "The Book of the Dead" ever apply the word "god" to any other than certain

mythological personages, who have no more pretentions to be the God of monotheists or philosophers than Mars, Bacchus, or Apollo. Who would think of quoting "Nec deus intersit" as evidence of monotheistic thought?

The whole of this Introduction is a mere mass of undigested cram out of the books (it matters not whether good, bad, or indifferent) which stand upon the shelves of the Egyptian Department. I do not know out of which book Mr. Budge has taken the extraordinary statement that "in the XVIIIth Dynasty Queen Hatshapset declared herself to be 'the creator of things which came into being like Khepera.'" The great queen never said anything of the kind; the translation of her words is simply monstrous. The Egyptian verb *cheper* is neuter, and never means "create." To think so is like confounding *fieri* with *facio*. It is on a par with the schoolboy's *Qui fit Maecenas*, 'Who made Maecenas?'"

Of the value of the translation given as that of the Papyrus of Ani, the following specimens will give a fair notion to any intelligent reader:

1. The vignette of what is called chapter 110 consists of a sort of plan of the Egyptian elysium, with its islands, streams, cornfields, inhabitants, and presiding deities. The names of these objects are written over them, and one of the inscriptions runs as follows:

"Mouth of the canal a thousand leagues in width, but of untold length," &c.

There is not the least difficulty here. The sense of the Egyptian word for "canal" is given in Dr. Birch's Dictionary, and was well known before. The Coptic *bor* "canalis, aquae ductus" has preserved the meaning. The word *atru* (which I call league) is the well-known greatest Egyptian measure of length. For proof that the words which I translate as "width" and "length" are rightly so translated, as distinguished from each other, I refer to the texts which give the dimensions of the temples and their chambers, such as that quoted by Duemichen in the *Zeitschrift* of 1873, p. 110. "Mouth" is certainly an ambiguous expression in Egyptian when applied to a stream. It is used in the sense of "surface" in the inscriptions of the XIIth Dynasty, indicating the maximum height of the Nile.

Now let us see Mr. Budge's translation of this very passage:

"Chapter of the River-horse. The river is one thousand [cubits] in its length. Not can be told its width."

"Chapter of the River-horse"! written, no doubt, for the edification or delectation of the horse-marines! The word for "stream" or "canal" Mr. Budge understands as being a "river-horse"; the word expressive of long measure he takes for a "river"; and he is in consequence obliged to invent and interpolate into his translation some word of measure, "cubits," as a noun corresponding to 1000. But a river only 1000 cubits long, but of a width which cannot be described, must be a very extraordinary river, and not in the least like that represented in the vignette.

2. In the very same chapter (110) there is a passage wherein it is said of the god Thoth:

"He reconcileth the two warrior gods with each other. He severeth the mourners from those who quarrel with them; he putteth a stop to them whose hand is violent against those weaker than themselves; he keepeth within bounds the contentions of the Powers."

Mr. Budge's version is:

"I have pacified the two holy Fighters; I have cut off the hairy scalp of their adversaries," &c.

The Turin text has (wrongly) the verb in the first person, but in what text can any person who understands the language discover any allusion to "hairy" or "scalp"? And who are the adversaries of the two holy fighters, who have deserved the fate which Mr. Budge's words indicate? Here is a valuable contribution to Egyptian anthropology.

3. It would, I think, be unnecessary to quote anything more for the purpose of satisfying an Egyptologist as to the value of Mr. Budge's translation, but one need not be an Egyptologist to see the force of the point to which I now refer. The forty-two gods of the Hall of Judgment are emphatically described as "possessors of righteousness and void of wrong." Can any one, whether Egyptologist or not, believe that a translator is likely to be right when he makes a suppliant address one of these gods as "doubly wicked, coming forth from Ati"? I suppose "doubly wicked" is intended by the translator to be taken in a non-natural and Pickwickian sense, by a figure of speech the reverse of euphemism, perhaps as an instance of what is called *Gegensinn*, better understood by our French friends as *contresens*.

Now it is not to be wondered at that, after so artlessly giving such a specimen of his attainments as the transcription and translation of the first line of the "Tale of the Two Brothers" in the book called *The Nile*, presented by Messrs. Cook to passengers on their tourist steamers, Mr. Budge should boldly undertake a task from which some of the most eminent scholars have shrunk. They shrunk from this task, not from any pusillanimous reason, nor because they thought themselves inferior in ability or knowledge to their neighbours, but because they knew of difficulties of which Mr. Budge is unconscious, or which he has his reasons for ignoring. Other people may waste their time in making out the various senses of words in the vocabulary or the niceties of the grammar; but he uses their labours as a schoolboy uses his Liddell and Scott, and if he happens to find a difference in their results, he sits in judgment and dogmatically takes the result which he likes best at the moment, without being able to assign a reason for his choice. Now, if Mr. Budge had chosen to publish this work at his own risk and cost, no one could have had reason, except on scientific grounds, for complaint. But the matter is far more serious as it stands. Who has taken upon himself the responsibility of advising the Trustees of the British Museum to print at the public expense a work of such pretension and cost. Has any one competent scholar been consulted on the subject? Is the Principal Librarian under the illusion that this costly work is comparable in value with the little "Guide to the Nimrond Central Saloon," of 1886, which is (or was) sold for fourpence?

Can anything, to the scholar, be more idle and wasteful than the transcription of the entire text? It can only serve to excite the wonder of cockneys and point out to others the defects of Mr Budge's scholarship. Who, but for this unnecessary display of ignorance, could have guessed that anyone who had the pretension of being able to translate "The Book of the Dead" should transcribe as *senar* one of the commonest and best known words of the language, signifying "repulse"? I at first took it for a misprint, but it occurs too often, and the nature of the mistake is quite evident. It is the same kind of mistake as if VI in Henry VI. were considered as the final syllable.

The interlinear translation shows at once the artless devices by which difficulties are got over when they are felt; when they are not felt, a corrupt or impossible text is as easy as another. There is a passage (chap. 147) which in the original says, "I come to thee, Osiris, whose sap is undefiled." The word which I render "sap" is generally translated "emanation," but it is rather like the Greek word which flows in the bodies of the gods. The vital sap of Osiris is said to be the source of life to men and gods. Mr Budge translates this passage (p. 62), "I have come to thee, Osiris, pure [from thy] emanations." And in another place (which is corrupt in Ani, but most easily corrected from any other copy), he reads "purified from thy foul emanations." Who is purified, the man or the god? the latter probably. The translator here does not understand a very obvious thing. There is no need of interpolating a preposition "from," which utterly falsifies the sense. The Egyptian expression, consisting of an adjective followed by a noun, must be translated like our "cold-blooded," "long-legged," "short-sighted." Mr. Budge has more than once rightly translated such phrases, but that was when others had already done so before him.

P. LE PAGE RENOUF.

—*The Academy.*

HIGH COURT: ORIGINAL CIVIL JURISDICTION

CONDUCT OF A RECEIVER.

In the case of Manick Lall Seal *vs.* Surrath Kumari Dassi and others, the following judgment was given on May 29 by Mr Justice Sale:—

This is an application by a Receiver appointed under the order of the 11th September, 1894. The object of the application is to bring to the notice of the Court certain circumstances connected with his appointment and to ask for the direction of the Court under the circumstances. The estate in the suit is the estate which was of Punna Lall Seal. The plaintiff is the adopted son of Punna Lall Seal, who was adopted by Surrath Kumari Dassi subsequent to the death of her husband. The suit was instituted for the purpose of administering the estate, etc. Surrath Kumari Dassi in 1879 obtained administration to her husband's estate and entered into possession and managed it from 1879 to 1894. Subsequently under a deed of transfer, made under the Administrator-General's Act, she transferred the estate to the Administrator-General. Since the date of the transfer the estate has been in the possession of the Administrator-General who was also appointed Receiver of the estate. A decree was made in the suit declaring plaintiff's right as the adopted son and declaring the rights of Surrath Kumari to maintenance out of the estate, and by the decree certain enquiries were directed. Subsequently a scheme was prepared by which it was intended to raise a considerable sum of money to pay off the liabilities of the estate and a part of the arrangement was that the estate should be managed for the future by a Receiver to be appointed for the purpose. In connection with that scheme Mr. W. H. Ryland was proposed as a fit person to be appointed Receiver, and it would appear that Surrath Kumari was prepared to assent to the appointment on certain conditions which were embodied in an agreement which was signed by her and Mr. Ryland. It is not necessary to refer to all the terms of the agreement to say that the object was to place very extensive control over the Receiver in the hands of Surrath Kumari Dassi. One of the clauses provided that all receipts for collection should

be jointly signed and issued under the hand of Surrath Kumari and of the Receiver. And the clause provided that Surrath Kumari should have the right of dismissing the Receiver at any time without objection by him subject only to the condition that if she exercised that right within three years of the appointment of the Receiver she should pay him a substantial compensation—Rs. 6,000. In making the application for the appointment of Mr. Ryland as Receiver, Surrath Kumari, the petitioner, filed a petition, in the 22nd paragraph of which she makes the following statement: "That your petitioner has arranged with Mr. W. H. Ryland of No. 15, Kyd Street, in Calcutta, who was at the time of his retirement from Government Service acting as Superintendent of Stamps and Stationery, and who was formerly for sometime Manager of the Estate of Babu Gopal Laul Seal, a co-sharer of the said Punna Lall Seal, and who has for sometime past been the Manager of the said Estate of the said Punna Lall Seal, under the said Administrator-General as such private Receiver as aforesaid, subject to the sanction and approval of this honourable Court, at a monthly salary of Rs. 500, a suitable carriage and horse being provided for the use of the said Mr. W. H. Ryland, and he being provided with suitable establishment for both the sudder and the mofussil cutcheries."

Now I regret to have to observe that this statement was of a wholly misleading character. The suggestion is that that was a full and fair statement of what the arrangement was, whereas it is obvious that the most objectionable features of the arrangement are wholly omitted. However an order was made on this position, and no objection being made to the appointment, Mr. Ryland was appointed. Subsequently and before he took over possession his attention was called to the grave impropriety of the Receiver and the parties interested in the estate coming to an arrangement which had not been brought to the notice of the Court, the object of which was to allow the parties or a party opportunities for very serious interference with the management of the property. I ought to have said shortly after the order was made a fresh arrangement was made which also was not brought to the notice of the Court, the effect of which was to modify the fresh arrrangement in certain minor particulars. A correspondence ensued between Mr. Ryland and Messrs. Remfry and Rose, the attorneys for Surrath Kumari, in which Mr. Ryland insisted that notice of these arrangements should be given to the court, and the Court's directions asked in respect of Mr. Ryland's appointment as Receiver. Messrs. Remfry and Rose, on the other hand, insisted either that Mr. Ryland should loyally, as they put it, carry out the agreements come to or resign the appointment. There is one circumstance which I have omitted to refer to, but which I am bound to give expression to, and that is the fact of which I was informed by the counsel of Surrath Kumari, that one of the clauses of the original agreement provided that the Receiver should employ Messrs. Remfry and Rose as his attorneys. It is right to add that the clause was struck out before the execution of the agreement, but it is obvious that there was at one time an object not merely to obtain benefit to Surrath Kumari in respect of the management of the estate, but a desire also to secure to her attorneys a benefit under the arrangement. Now the first question is as to what the fact of the existence of these agreements ought to have on the appointment made. I have no hesitation whatever in expressing my opinion that the parties concerned in making these agreements were themselves guilty of gross contempt of Court, for which each and all of them are liable to commitment. It is further also clear to me that it was a gross fraud on the Court for any party to put forward a person as Receiver who had disqualified himself by coming to a secret arrangement of this character with the parties to the suit. There can be no doubt that if, before the appointment, the Court had become aware that the parties intended by a secret arrangement to control the conduct of the Receiver, that the appointment would never have been made. It cannot be too clearly understood that a Receiver appointed by the Court has only just such power and authority to manage the property as the Court sees fit to give him. He is the servant of the Court and not of the parties to the suit, and any interference with his management by secret arrangements before or after appointment is nothing short of an interference with the Court's possession and management of the estate, and parties so interfering render themselves liable to the penalties for contempt. The question, however, whether under the circumstances I ought to allow the fact that the Receiver has, without the knowledge of the Court, entered into these arrangements to operate as a permanent disqualification. In the first place when I indicated my view of these arrangements the parties expressed themselves willing to withdraw the agreements and abandon them. That is a circumstance to which I ought to give due weight. Further, in the affidavits which Surrath Kumari and the Receiver put in, they in effect state that they had no sort of knowledge that by entering into these arrangements, they were doing anything improper, nor did they intend to interfere in any way with the Receiver's due discharge of his duties, nor did they believe that these arrangements would have the effect of interfering with the Receiver's proper discharge of his duties. In one of the letters written by Messrs. Remfry and Rose on behalf of Surrath Kumari to Messrs. Carruthers and Co., who were acting for Mr. Ryland, there is this stated: It is to be regretted that it did not occur either to ourselves or to Mr. Ryland to bring the agreement to the notice of the Court.

Now if it be that the impropriety of the parties in making these agreements was not present to the mind of attorneys of experience like Messrs. Remfry and Rose, it perhaps is not singular that neither Mr. Ryland nor SurrathKumari were conscious that they were doing anything which was improper in making the agreement. They might well have supposed that if there was any impropriety the attorneys would have been aware of it, and would have warned them of the fact. However willing I may be to accept the assurance of Mr. Ryland and Surrath Kumari that they were acting *bona fide* in becoming parties to the agreement, I am bound to say I find it very difficult, indeed, to accept any such excuse on behalf of the attorneys themselves. That they should have been unaware that there was anything improper is to me both incomprehensible and inexcusable. I think, having regard to the fact that I am willing to accept Mr. Ryland's explanation that he himself was entirely unaware that he was doing anything contrary or inconsistent with the proper discharge of his duties, and having regard to the fact which is admitted on all hands, of his peculiar fitness for the office, I should be doing the best thing for the estate if I abstain from removing him from the post of Receiver and give him liberty forthwith to enter into possession. This is the order I propose to make on this application.

Mr. Garth appeared on behalf of a certain Loan Corporation, who are stated to have advanced moneys to the estate relying on the appointment of Mr. Ryland as Receiver, but it appeared to me then, and I think so still, he had no *locus standi*. As regards costs, it obviously is an application the costs of which ought not to be borne by the estate. I make no order as regards the Receiver's own costs. As regards the costs of Manick Lall Seal and the Administrator General, they must be paid by Surrath Kumari Dassi. If the attorneys had done their duty, this application would have been unnecessary, and the parties would not have been put to the costs of it.

OFTEN TIRED BUT NEVER WEARY.

LET'S discuss this point for two minutes. Here's a man who says that at a certain period he began to feel "tired and weary." That's precisely the way he puts it in his letter. Now anybody has a right to feel tired or fatigued (it's the same thing), after labour or much exercise. It's the body's fashion of telling you to hold up, to give it a rest. It is a natural and, in health, with supper and sleep just ahead, a pleasant feeling. But weariness!—that's different. That comes of monotony, of waiting, of loneliness. Weariness is of the mind, not of the body. But it can arise *in* the body, all the same. If this bothers you at first, don't say, "Stuff!" "humbug!" but study up on it. A man may be *tired* and happy, but not *weary* and happy. For weariness means depressed spirits, and nerves all sagged down in the middle. And when you get both at once you will be wise to find out what's gone wrong.

It is a short letter, this is, and we can just as well quote the whole of it. The writer says: "It was in November, 1887, when I began to feel tired and weary. It seemed as if I had no strength left in me. Before that I had always been strong and healthy. My appetite was poor, and for days together I could not touch any food that was placed before me. After every meal that I did succeed in forcing down I had such dreadful pains in the chest and back that I was almost afraid to eat. Then there was a sharp pain around the heart, too, as though I was stabbed with a knife.

"I lost a deal of sleep, and for nights together I didn't sleep at all. Then I began to lose flesh rapidly, and was afraid I was going into a consumption. Yet I kept on with my work, however, but it was a hard thing for me, because I was so weak and nervous that I trembled from head to foot. As time went on I gradually got worse and worse, and my eyes were sunken and drawn in. I consulted a doctor in Kentish Town. He gave me medicine, but it did no good. After all this I got the idea into my head that I should not recover.

"One day a lady came into the shop, and noticing the state I was in, kindly asked how long I had been ill. I told her all about it, and she said 'You try Mother Seigel's Curative Syrup; it has made me well, and I believe it will do you good.'

"I sent for a bottle, and after taking only a few doses I felt relieved. Presently my food agreed with me, and I enjoyed my meals. I could sleep better also, and by keeping on taking the Syrup I soon got as strong as I ever was in my life. Since that time (now over four years ago), I have been in the best of health. I consider that in all probability this remedy saved my life; at all events, it restored my health, and life without health don't amount to much. I gladly consent to the publication of the statement, and will answer inquiries. Yours truly (Signed), G. VINCE, 142, Shepherd's Bush Road, London, W., November 30th, 1892."

Thus Mr. Vince's unfortunate experience comes to happy end. As he has to work for a living, like most of us, he is no doubt often tired, but never weary any more. And what can possibly be more wearisome than long-continued illness? With him, as with millions, it was the stomach that was at fault. His food entered the stomach and stopped there. So he suffered from two bad results: he received no strength from it, but it did receive the deadly acids and gases which the fermented stuff gave birth to. Indigestion and dyspepsia. The same old story of pain and misery, and, thank mercy, the same story of restoration and gratitude after an appeal for help had been made to good old Mother Seigel.

CORPORATION OF CALCUTTA.
LOAN NOTIFICATION.

1. The Commissioners of Calcutta are prepared, with the sanction of the Governor-General in Council given under Section 404 of Act. II (B. C.) of 1888, to open a Debenture Loan for Rs. 18,00,000 on the security of the rates, taxes and dues imposed and levied under the Calcutta Municipal Consolidation Act, 1888

2. The Debentures will have a currency of fifteen years from the 1st December, 1895, and will bear interest at the rate of 4 per cent. per annum, payible on the 1st June and 1st December of each year.

3. The form of the Debenture Bonds will be that given in the twelfth schedule of Act. II. (B. C) of 1888

4 No Debenture Bonds will be issued for any sum less than Rs 500, and above that amount Debentures will be issued only for complete sums of Rs 100.

5. Tenders for the whole or any part of the above Loan of Rs. 18,00,000 will be received by the Secretary to the Corporation up to 2 o'clock P M. of Friday, the 28 h June, 1895.

6 Each tender must be made out in the form annexed to this Notification, and enclosed in a sealed cover addressed to the Secretary to the Corporation, and superscribed "Tender for Municipal Loan of 1895 96."

7. Each tender must be accompanied by Government promissory notes, Calcutta Municipal Debentures, currency notes or cheques for not less than 3 per cent. of the amount tendered.

8. When a tender is accepted, the deposit, when made in currency notes, or cheques, will be held as a payment in part of the amount tendered, and will bear interest at the rate of 4 per cent. per annum from the date of acceptance of the tender, provided that the whole amount tendered is paid up in the manner hereinafter prescribed; but no debenture will issue for the sum so deposited so long as the entire amount of the tender is not paid.

9 The deposits on tenders which may not be accepted will be returned on application, and no interest will be payable on such deposits If an allotment after being made is not taken up, and the full amount allotted is not paid as hereinafter prescribed, the deposit will be forfeited

10 The rate at which a tender is made must be specified in rupees, or rupees and annas: a tender in which the rate is not so specified will be rejected as null and void.

11 The rates stated in a tender must not contain any fraction of an anna. If a rate containing fraction of an anna is inserted in any tender, such fraction will be struck out, and the tender treated as if the rate did not contain such fraction of an anna.

12. The amount of the accepted tenders must be paid into the Bank of Bengal in the following instalments:—

One-third by the 15th July.
Do. by the 14th August.
Do. by the 14th September.

Parties whose tenders are accepted will have the option of paying all or any of the instalments before the dates specified above, and will receive interest from the date of such payment.

13 Anticipation interest will be paid on all instalments from the respective dates on which such instalments are paid into the Bank of Bengal to the 30th November, 1895.

14 In the case of two or more tenders at the same rate a *pro rata* allotment will be made (if the tenders are accepted), but no allotment will be issued if the amount distributable on any tender is less than Rs 500.

15 A minimum having been previously fixed, tenders will be opened by the Loan Committee of the Commissioners at 2-30 P. M., on Friday, the 28th June, 1895, at the Municipal Office.

W. R. MACDONALD,
Secretary to the Corporation.

MUNICIPAL OFFICE
Calcutta, 28th May 1895.

FORM OF APPLICATION FOR DEBENTURES.

I hereby tender for Rs.
of the Municipal four (4) per cent. Debenture Loan for 1895 96, and agree to pay for the same subject to the conditions notified at the rate of Rupees annas for every Hundred Rupees allotted to me.

I enclose Government promissory notes, Calcutta Municipal Debentures, currency notes or a cheque for Rs.

Signed
Dated

IN THE PRESS

To be published in October 1895

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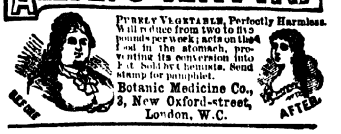

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WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

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REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

VOL. XIV. CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, JUNE 15, 1895. WHOLE NO. 679.

CONTEMPORARY POETRY.

THE RAJPUT LEGEND OF JAGDEV PARMAR.

(FROM THE RAS MALA.)

BY A. ROGERS, B.C.S.

(Continued from page 266.)

Thus sportively she spoke and threw her arms
Caressingly around her lord, who strove
In vain to move her from her firm resolve.
He told her even, in a foreign land
A wife would but incumber him. She said
It was not fitting that a Rajput prince
Should go alone, and she would wait on him
Jagdev agreed at last. Donning a veil,
The Chavari prepared to go, and brought
A store of jewels and of ready gold.
And so they went. Tow'rds Pattan lay their course,
Where Sidh Raj Jesangh reigned, the Solankhi,
The lord of Malwa and of Gujarat.
The royal pair set forth at break of day,
Escorted by a kingly cavalcade.
We need no more accompany their march,
Which was without adventure as they passed
Slowly from stage to stage, until they came
Of a eve to Pattan's royal town, of yore
As Anhilvara famed through India's land.
There reigned then Sidh Raj Jesangh, who of all
The Native Rulers of fair Gujarat,
The pearl of Hindustan, has widest fame.
By the Sahasra Ling, a roomy tank,
Close on the outskirts of the town, they stayed
Their jaded steeds, for they had travelled far.
Fair Virmati beneath a spreading tree
Reposed at length to rest her wearied limbs,
Whilst Jagdev went away into the town
To hire a lodging where they might abide.
There was a wealthy courtesan who lived
In Pattan, one who had amassed much gain
In pandering to the vices of young men
About the Court—Jamoti was her name.
Of Pattan's citadel the Governor,
One Dungarsi by name, had but one son,
On whom he doted in a foolish way,
And never ventured to control his mood.
He to Jamoti a commission gave
To find a handsome woman of good caste
To be his paramour, and diligent
She searched among the fair ones of the land,
Expectant of munificent reward.
One of her maids that evening to the tank
Came to draw water, and with eager gaze
Looked on the Chavari, who, no man near
To view her peerless charms, had thrown aside
The veil with which her features she concealed
From all but husband, brother or her sire.
She feigned herself to be a waiting maid
Oh Sidh Raj Jesangh's palace, and enquired
The why and wherefore of Virmati's state,
And went and told it in Jamoti's ear.
Hailling the opportunity, she went
With a fair retinue out to the tank.
Handsome her equipage, and all her state
Seemed suited to a woman of high rank.
One of her maids she dressed in regal robes,
And taught her how to tell a specious tale,
That she of Sidh Raj was the sister born,
And hearing of her coming hastened there
Tuktoda's child to welcome and embrace.
Her maid had told her who Virmati was.
The Chavari, trusting to her honeyed words,
Mounted her chariot, and went with her home
And as the gate she entered, women came,
And strewing flowers of beauty on her path,
Sang song of welcome to a lively air.
Then were the carpets spread. Pretended word
To Sidh Raj Jesangh's palace was dispatched
That Jagdev, son of Udyadit, had come,
And would soon wait upon him. He must see
That he was welcomed with becoming state.
An equally pretended answer came : the prince
Should wait upon the king and thence proceed
To where the Chavari had found a house.
With various excuse they thus delayed
Until the night arrived. To stately room
Fit for a royal bride, the Chavari
Was led by handmaids with the honour due,
And she was told that Jagdev with the king
Had stayed to dine and that he soon would come.
The door soon opened and in Jagdev's stead,
Horror of horrors ! came an unknown man.
Then on her mind the awful truth flashed clear,
And Virmati first knew she was betrayed.
The son of Dungarsi, the Governor,
It was who thus appeared. In bloodshot eye
And lustful countenance at once she saw
The horrid end for which he sought her there.
She was alone, and dared not raise a cry.
She had no friend to hasten at her call,
To lend her aid in that vile leprous house.
What could she do to ward off her disgrace ?
She knew in strength that she could not compete
With a well-armed and muscular young man.
Then came her woman's wit to succour her.
She saw the fumes of opium and of wine
Already half his sense benumbed, and knew
A little more would soon benumb the rest,
And she from present danger would be free.

Subscribers in the country are requested to remit by postal money orders, if possible, as the safest and most convenient medium, particularly as it ensures acknowledgment through the Department. No other receipt will be given, any other being unnecessary and likely to cause confusion.

With a feigned smile she beckoned him to sit,
And proffered him *kasumba*. He drew back,
As half aware that he had drunk enough.
Again she pressed and with a winning grace
Said to the drunkard : "Would my lord refuse
The first cup offered by his slave? Why thus
Is she of favour quite unworthy deemed?'
He drank the cup, and with a second draft
She wheedled him to drink : he fell asleep.
With frenzied ecstasy she seized his sword,
And put an end to his disgraceful life.
She rolled the body up inside a quilt,
And threw the bundle down into the road,
And making fast the door sat down and watched,
Grasping the sword in her unshrinking hand,
Prepared to guard her honour with her life.

(To be continued.)

—*The Imperial and Asiatic Quarterly Review.*

WEEKLYANA.

VESUVIUS is active again. For the last three months, a new cone is forming to the north-west of the old crater and is already fifty or sixty feet high and 200 feet higher than the crater of 1891. The earthquake at Florence, on the evening of the 18th May, which extended to Bologna, Siena, Pisa and Placentia, is attributed to this activity.

***

ON the occasion of the marriage of her grandson, Baron Henri de Rothschild, son of the late Baron James de Rothschild, to Mlle Mathilde de Weisweiller, Baronesse Nathaniel de Rothschild presented 20,000 frs. to the poor of Paris.

***

MRS. Murton, a Bolton lady, lately residing at Silverdale, has bequeathed 32,000*l* each to the Bolton Infirmary, the British and Foreign Bible Society, Church Missionary Society, and the Church Pastoral Aid Society.

***

THE German Imperial Diet has accepted a measure for the punishment of slave-raiding and slave-trading. It is not for doing away with every existing kind of slavery at once.

***

IN Egypt, Sir John Scott is engaged on a scheme for the complete abolition of slavery in that country.

***

THE United States Supreme Court has declared against the income-tax. It has held that taxes on rents or the income of real estate, and taxes on personal property or the income of personal property are direct taxes, and that the tax imposed by sections 27 to 37 of the Act of 1894, falling on income of real estate and personal property, is a direct tax within the meaning of the Constitution, and therefore unconstitutional and void, as not apportioned according to representation. All those sections, the court says, constituting one entire scheme of taxation, are necessarily invalid. The Judges were not agreed on the point. Chief Justice Fuller who delivered the opinion of the Court, and four other Justices, namely, Field, Gray, Brewer and Shiras, were of one mind, while Justices Harlan, Brown, White and Jackson dissented. About 73,000 dollars have been realized under the Act, which sum will be refunded by the Treasury. In India, courts are excluded from discussing the legality of an impost, its incidence or realization. In revenue matters, Government is the sole judge.

***

IT is reported from Chili that the Parliament House at Santiago was totally destroyed by fire on May 18. The loss is estimated at more than 2,000,000 pesos.

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THE Lyne Stephens pictures—seventy-eight examples—sold at Christie's, realized in all 46,876*l*. Among them, a "Portrait of an Infanta," by Velasquez, fetched 4,300 guineas; Murillo's "Faith Presenting the Eucharist" was knocked down at 2,350 guineas; Cuyp's "Portrait of the Prince of Orange and his Sons" went for 2,000 guineas; an interior with figures, by Terburg, went up to 1,950 guineas; a scene in front of an inn door, by Isaac Ostade, was sold for 1,660 guineas; the successful bid for Nattier's "Portrait of a Lady of the Court of Louis XV" was 2,900 guineas. The other principal sales were Watteau's "La Game d'Amour" for 3,350gs; Mme. Vigée le Brun's "Portrait of a Lady" for 2,250gs; and Troyon's "Sporting Dogs and Game-keeper," 2,850gs.

At a sale of modern pictures by the same auctioneers, a drawing, "A Welsh Funeral, Bettwys-y-Coed," by David Cox, realized 2,400 guineas; his "Windsor Great Park," 1,350 guineas; "The Hesperides," by Sir E. Burne-Jones, 2,560 gs.; and a set of four pictures by the same artist, illustrating the story of Pygmalion, 3,500 guineas. One water-colour drawing by Turner fetched 1,100 guineas and two others 700 each. The "Bezestein Bazaar, Cairo," by J. F. Lewis, R. A., was sold at 1,400 guineas.

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AT a recent sale at Glangwan, the residence of Mr. W. H. Graves, Lord-Lieutenant of Carnarvonshire, an old and dirty picture was knocked down at 5*l*. It is now believed to be a missing Rubens and roughly valued at 7,000*l*.

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Woman at Home describes a touching incident in the life of Mme. Malibran, the famous operatic singer, in these words :—

"A little sad-faced lad once called on her, and begged the maid to be allowed to see her mistress. Marie Malibran was resting from the fatigues of receiving, but told her servant to let the boy come up, as she could never refuse anything to children. The little boy came timidly to her, and said. 'I have come to tell you that my mother is very ill, and we are too poor to get food or medicine. I have thought that perhaps you would sing my song,' showing her a roll of paper in his hand, 'at one of your grand concerts, and that maybe a publisher would buy it for a small sum.' Malibran took the music from his hand and lightly hummed the air. 'Did you compose it?' she asked, 'you, a child! And the words? Would you care to come to my concert?' 'Oh, indeed, yes,' cried Pierre; 'but,' he added, sadly, 'I must not leave mother!' 'I will send some one to take care of your mother,' said Malibran, softly, 'and meanwhile here is money to buy food and medicine.' That evening the little boy was admitted to the concert-hall. With a beating heart he listened for the well-known strains, and only after many songs were over, the band struck up the plaintive little melody he knew right well. Many a bright eye was dimmed, many a heart was stirred by its pathos. The next morning Pierre received a visit from the great singer. She kissed the child affectionately and turned to the sick woman. 'Your little son,' she said, considerably moved, 'has brought you a fortune. I was offered a large sum of money by the first publisher in London this morning for his little song.' Malibran never lost sight of her little *protégé*, and on her untimely death, he who clasped her hands and lightened her last moments by his devotion and gratitude was the little Pierre of former days, now rich, accomplished, and one of the most talented composers of the day."

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AT New Ross, Ireland, on May 19, they held a demonstration to celebrate the insurrection of 1798. Speeches were made in favour of an independent Irish nation and of the revolutionary movement. Free England!

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THE Newspaper Press Fund held its thirty-second annual dinner, on May 18, at the Hôtel Métropole. Sir F. Lockwood, Q.C., Solicitor-General, presided. In proposing "Prosperity to the Newspaper Press Fund,"

"He spoke somewhat feelingly of the newspaper proprietor, for he was once one himself. He had been largely interested in a newspaper, regarding which, when he told them that the main object of its existence was to support his political career they would not be surprised to hear that it came to grief. The gods must have loved it, for it died young. Unfortunately, the gods did not take in newspapers, and he did not think that as a rule they advertised. (Laughter.) They were about the only people who did not. The mortals did not take this newspaper in any more than the gods, and so, as he had said, it died young. Had it lived longer, he would have been in a better position, he firmly believed, to give information with regard to the financial position of the Newspaper Press fund. He must not, however, underrate the importance of the reporter, who reported one's speech so well that when one read it the next morning a man doubted whether he could have made it. (Laughter.) He (Sir F. Lockwood) had himself read with amazement and admiration speeches of which he had been desperately ashamed immediately after he had made them. He would not stop to discuss whether the improvement in the Press was due to the taste of the public or to the intellect of the newspaper producer. He was attracted the other day to a theatre, where he saw an admirable, interesting, and amusing play. What drew him there was an intimation that the Solicitor-General appeared on the stage. He found in that interesting drama a Cabinet Minister who had discovered that his domestic happiness was being seriously interfered with. Under those circumstances the Home Secretary, for he was the Minister in question, did what every sensible Home Secretary would do—he consulted the Solicitor-General. The Solicitor-General, without a moment's hesitation, said, 'The difference between yourself and your wife is caused by her reading the Opposition papers.' That diagnosis, so hastily and correctly formed, resulted in peace and happiness, and the Solicitor-General so far as he (Sir F. Lockwood) knew, went without reward. (Hear, hear, and laughter.) That showed how correctly the author of that admirable play appreciated real life. Had he prolonged that drama until that legal gentleman got his due reward he would have exhausted the patience of his audience. He agreed with that Solicitor-General

If they did not agree with papers do not let them read them. If they do not like reading papers of the Opposition they need not read them. They had admirable journals of their own. But he was one of those who had no objection to being chastened, and chastening on the whole was good for one, and they got it from the papers of the Opposition. They were, however, present on that occasion not to be divided one from the other by any disagreements so trivial as those that were called political. He supposed that in his life he had pleaded some very bad causes, and some very shaky causes, possibly some very good causes; but he felt he was pleading a good cause that night, and he felt also that he was calling the best witness he could when he called upon the president of the Newspaper Press Fund to return thanks for the toast. (Cheers.)"

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THE third Congress of Chambers of Commerce of the Empire will be held in June 1896. The subjects proposed for discussion are:—

Commercial relations between the mother country and her colonies and dependencies; boards of labour conciliation and arbitration; codification of the commercial law of the empire; bills of lading reform; commercial education; the decimal system of weights, measures, and currency; Imperial penny postage; light dues; railways, light railways, railway communication with India and the East; inter-colonial trade relations; arbitration for international disputes; Imperial trademarks registration and patent law; cable communication, construction, rates, codes; steamship, communication, rates, subsidies, war risks, insurance; closer connection between Governments and chambers of commerce, by establishment of commercial, advisory, or consultative councils, home and colonial; bills of exchange, uniform procedure; supply of Government publications to chambers of commerce and mutual interchange of own documents; parliamentary commercial parties, home and colonial; representation of United Kingdom in colonies and of colonies in the United Kingdom, to make up for want of consular officers who are only appointed to foreign countries; appointment of an imperial council to consider questions of imperial interest; copyright.

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A CORRESPONDENT from Partabganj writes to the *Behar Herald and the Indian Chronicle*:—

"The transfer of our popular Magistrate and Collector F. H. B. Skrine, Esquire, is a great loss to Bhagalpuris. During the time he had been in our midst a period of about a year or so, he won the respect and admiration of all with whom he came in contact both in public and private life, on account of exceptional ability, clear-headedness, coolness of judgment and strict integrity with which he faced all questions that came before him. He never sought for popularity, while on the other hand popular voice sought him out. The manner with which he cherished his subordinates and ruled people during his short stay at Bhagalpur, if described, would require a volume."

Mr. Skrine is exceptionally fortunate. Wherever he has been, he has left a name which is cherished with regard and gratitude.

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IT is proposed to declare that clause *(b)* of section 76 of Act II (B.C.) of 1882 shall take effect over a tract of country extending from the 1st to the 20th mile, on both sides of the river Gumti, *i. e.*, from Beebee Hat to Jaffrigunj Hat, in the district of Tippera. While so proposing, the Lieutenant-Governor, in the same notification, prohibits the erection of any new embankment, or causing, or wilfully permitting such erection, or any addition to the existing embankment, or the obstruction, or diversion, or causing or wilfully permitting such obstruction or diversion of any water-course within the tract, without the permission of the Collector of Tippera.

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THE Director of Public Instruction, Bengal, has received intimation from the Secretary to the Society for the Assistance of Foreign Students, Sorbonne, Paris, that the Society has been established, under the presidency of M. Pasteur, with the object of affording necessary information and moral support to young students visiting France for the purpose of study. It has recently obtained from the Compagnie des Messageries Maritimes, the promise of a reduction of 30 per cent. in the passage money by any of the Company's steamers, in favour of Foreign students recommended for the concession by the Society.

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ONLY one candidate in the first and ten in the second division have passed the F. E examination of the Calcutta University.

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A PIECE of land measuring, more or less, 2 cottahs and 5 dhurs of standard measurement, in the village of Nawanagar, pargana Bhojpur zilla Shahabad, is declared under the Land Acquisition Act, I of 1894, for a pound building. What is to be the space allotted to each animal?

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NOTES & LEADERETTES,

OUR OWN NEWS,

&

THE WEEK'S TELEGRAMS IN BRIEF, WITH OCCASIONAL COMMENTS.

THE Porte has not wholly rejected the proposals of the Powers with regard to Armenia. The Sultan, however, declares that he will resist any scheme for European control over the administration in any part of Turkey. The Russian papers are in favour of an International Conference.

THE German forces in the Cameroons have severely defeated the rebellious Bakoko tribes, storming four of their strongholds, and killing two hundred men. The German loss was twelve killed and forty-seven wounded.

THE Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company entertained Prince Nasrulla at luncheon on June 7, on board the Company's steamer Caledonia at the Docks. Mr. Fowler, Secretary of State for India, was among the guests present. Mr. Fowler said that the country was proud of the Chitral campaign. England would hold India come weal or woe, and do her duty by all races and creeds. A telegram has been received from the Amir of Afganistan cancelling letters that had been written urging the speedy return of the Shahzada, and agreeing to Mr. Martin's suggestion to prolong the visit of Prince Nasrulla till the beginning of September. The Prince is now on his Provincial tour. The first to receive him was Birmingham where he minutely inspected the Small Arms Factory. He next arrived at Manchester and displayed equal interest in the various cotton manufactures. Seven miles of the Manchester Ship Canal were traversed on the journey to Liverpool, where the Shahzada was welcomed by the Mayor and leading citizens. Replying to addresses, he said he hoped his visit to England would stengthen the alliance between the two countries. He is now at Glasgow. In reply to a question, Mr. Fowler said that the entire cost of the Prince's visit to England would be borne by India.

THE *Daily Telegraph* has opened a subscription for a national testimonial to the champion cricketer, Dr. W. G. Grace. The subscription is limited to one shilling. There is a similar move in Calcutta.

THE Italian elections have been most turbulent. Several murders are reported from different places. Count Luigi Ferrari, moderate Socialist Deputy and ex-Secretary of State, died, on June 10, from the effects of a revolver shot. His assailant is an anarchist named Rimini. The same day, the Italian Parliament was opened by King Humbert. In his speech he referred in cordial terms to his friend the Emperor of Germany. He also spoke of the most intimate friendship existing between Italy and Great Britain, a proof of which was especially displayed by the latter acceding to the request made by Italy for stopping the importation of arms into Abyssinia through the Somali ports.

ANOTHER letter from Colonel Neville Chamberlain has appeared in the *Times* against the retention of Chitral. The writer urges the expediency of adopting the frontier policy of Lord Lawrence.

IN the Chamber of Deputies, on June 10, M. Hanotaux delivered an important speech on foreign affairs, in the course of which he declared that the French Government had joined Russia in opposing the conditions of peace arranged between Japan and China at Simonasaki, firstly, owing to her alliance with Russia. By refusing her support, France would have left Russia to confront difficulties which would have maimed the general policy of Russia. Secondly, because the provisions of the Simonasaki Treaty imperilled the existence of China, whose provinces opened a vast field for trade with the French Colonies in Indo China. M. Ribot challenged the Minister for Foreign Affairs to produce the treaty of alliance with Russia to which he referred, but this M. Hanotaux declined to do. After some debate the foreign policy of the Government was approved by a majority of 260 votes.

INTELLIGENCE has been brought at Shanghai that the Foreign Mission stations at Kiating and Yochou have been burned. The property has been completely destroyed. The Chinese officials are refusing to afford any protection.

A COMMERCIAL treaty has been signed between Russia and Japan. It is said to be identical with that arranged with Great Britain regarding the most Favoured Nation Clause.

THE *Times* publishes a telegram from its correspondent at Odessa stating that one thousand Russian troops have been despatched to reinforce the frontier guard on the borders of Armenia.

FIVE French Banks have signed an agreement to lend China fifteen millions sterling under the Russian guarantee. News of the arrangement has been received with marked disfavour at Berlin and London. In the latter city especially much displeasure is expressed, because China will be placed thereby in complete subservience to Russia. It is stated at St. Petersburg that negotiations for the evacuation of Corea will take place between Russia and Japan after the retirement of the Japanese troops from the Liaotung Peninsula has been finally settled. The interest payable on the Chinese loan is fixed at four per cent., secured on the Customs receipts at the treaty ports and the absolute guarantee of Russia. The issue price will be about ninety eight. The Japanese troops occupied Taipehfu in Formosa on the 7th instant.

COUNT Goluchowski, the new Austro-Hungarian Minister for Foreign Affairs, addressing the Hungarian delegation at Vienna, declared that he would adhere to the policy of Count Kalnoky, especially with regard to a peaceful Triple Alliance as the best calculated to foster friendly relations between all the Power.

RAJA Ram Singh, Commanding the Kashmir State troops, has been created Commander of the Bath.

THE British, French and Russian Ambassadors have presented a note to the Porte demanding the disarmament of the Bedouins and the payment of an indemnity for the outrage at Jeddah. The Porte has replied urging the extreme difficulty of disarming the Bedouins. The British war vessel Dolphin has arrived at Jeddah.

THE Committee of the French Chamber has resolved to demand a full discussion in the Chamber regarding the petition of Native Egyptians organized by M Deloncle against the reformed judicial procedure.

THE Spanish Government has decided to quell the Cuban rebellion at any cost Preparations are being made for the despatch of 40,000 troops to the island in August.

PRESIDENT Cleveland has ordered the vigorous enforcement of the neutrality laws in connection with the rebellion in Cuba, and the severe punishment of all offenders.

THE free silver convention organized at Memphis is being attended by about two thousand delegates who advocate the fixing of the ratio at sixteen to one.

THE Royal Humane Society has just rewarded a little fellow of eleven years of age, named Fred. B. Cooper, who has only the use of one hand. Finding another boy fallen through the ice in the recreation ground running by the Trent, he went to his rescue by lying flat on the ice; seized the drowning boy by his collar; raised him from the water, and, placing him on his back, brought him to the bank.

THE Chitral Expedition has changed the custom of the Bajaurs, in one notable instance, at least. These people after reaping their crops, that is, cutting the ears of wheat or barley, not only neglected what still remained, but burnt them, probably to manure the soil for a future season. Finding that the Expeditionary Force required straw for the troops and transport, they have given up their old practice and is prepared to reap another harvest from the same crop

A CORRESPONDENT from Janbatai Pass wrote to a contemporary that "We simply sit still all day, as there is nothing to do. Now that all the fighting is over, it is as dull as can be. One is not allowed to leave camp or the high road for more than a mile, except with an escort of six armed men, so shooting is out of the question, even if one had a gun, which one has not, or if there were game in these hills, which there does not appear to be."

That statement is traversed by another, a non-commissioned officer, who says that "the troops are hard at work on fatigues of every description, and although fighting is over, the men have to sleep with their fingers almost on the trigger or sword belt, to be ready to pot 'snipers.'"

RAI Ishri Pershad, of Patna, charged with bad livelihood, has, after a lengthened investigation, been ordered to enter into a personal recognizance for Rs. 25,000 and to furnish two sureties for Rs. 12,500 each.

THE Cantonment Rules and Regulations require that "Every person shall keep in proper repair the boundary walls, fences, or other enclosures of his estate or premises." Under it, but without quoting it, the Cantonment Magistrate of Barrackpore served a notice on the Agent—a native—of the owner, Miss Forbes of Purneah, of House No. 27, calling upon him to paint the gate and the boundary walls. The notice was unheeded, in that the gate and fencing were in good condition and the law did not prescribe painting. This neglect was visited with a summons and ultimately a fine of Rs. 10 by Captain Wake, the Cantonment Magistrate. On appeal, the Magistrate of the 24-Parganas upheld the conviction and confirmed the sentence. The matter has now come up to the High Court. Sir Griffith Evans on behalf of the Agent has obtained a rule calling for the records and for revision of the judgment of the District Magistrate.

THE Governor General in Council has laid down for the guidance of Courts and Magistrates in the territories administered by the Chief Commissioner of Assam the following rules :—

Rule I.—No boy shall be sent to a reformatory school on a first conviction (except as provided in Rule III), if under ten years of age, for a less period than five years ; if over ten, for a less period than three years, unless he shall sooner attain the age of 18.

Rule II.—On a subsequent conviction for a similar offence a boy under ten years of age shall not be sent to a reformatory school for a less period than seven years ; if over ten, for a less period than five years ; unless he shall sooner attain the age of 18.

Rule III.—A first conviction may bring a boy under Rule II—

(1) if he belongs to a criminal tribe within the meaning of Act XXVII of 1871, section 2 ;
(2) if either of his parents is a habitual criminal ;
(3) if he is destitute ; and
(4) if the offence of which he is convicted is one arguing great depravity—that is, general corruption of morals apart from the specific criminality of the particular act.

In the N.-W. Provinces and Oudh, the principle seems to be that boys who have reached the age of 13 or who have only been convicted once should not be sent to the Reformatory ; and no boy over 10 years of age can be confined for a less period than five years, unless he shall sooner attain the age of 18 years. It does not appear though that the rule is observed. In commenting on the Annual Report on the Reformatory School at Bareilly for 1894, the Local Government remarks—"Either the ages as entered in the warrants are incorrect, or the sentences of no less than 13 boys are illegal with reference to the rule."

In sentencing, magistrates are not to be guided by only the ages of the boys. They must also take into consideration the accommodation in the Reformatory. We remember the Calcutta magistrates being once asked not to order Reformatory, on that account. At the Bareilly school, opened on the 1st April 1889, there is accommodation for 232 boys with separate cubicles for each, besides hospital accommodation for 24. Last year, the average attendance was 207 87. For the first year (nine months only) it was 36·86, and the second 85·30. In 1894, 65 were admitted and 44 discharged on completion of sentence. Details as to 43 of the 55 boys trained and discharged are available. The result is satisfactory. Only four are known to have lapsed into crime.

The Bareilly is the only Reformatory in India where boys are taught agriculture and at least one trade. The farm has an area of 37½, and the garden of 8½ acres. The Superintendent reports that "a very considerable number of boys show no aptitude whatever for any trade, being fitted only to be 'hewers of wood and drawers of water.'" He therefore suggests that "where boys have made no progress in learning a trade within a reasonable time (say one year), the

attempt should be given up, and that these boys should be kept at agricultural work." He would make them "do all the hard work of the Reformatory, such as drawing water, sweeping and removing rubbish, &c."

The teaching of trade is to be abandoned because there are not sufficient orders to keep the boys employed.

"In selecting trades to be taught we have not only to consider what is likely to be useful to the boys in after-life, but also whether sufficient work can be got to keep the factory going. Blacksmith's work, carpentry, darie-weaving and cloth-weaving have, at different times, been tried, but have had to be given up for want of sufficient orders. The trades now taught in addition to farming and gardening are, canework, shoemaking, tailoring and carpet-weaving. Of these the most satisfactory is the cane-work; financially it is a success. Sufficient orders are received to keep all hands employed; and although it is not likely that any large number of the boys employed in it will earn a livelihood in after-life by wickerwork, they are all trained to be neat-handed, and to most of them it will be an advantage to be able to make baskets, &c.

In the tailor's shop all the boys' clothing is made; but few outside orders are received, and there is consequently little cash profit. A sewing-machine was purchased last year, and several boys are very expert in using it.

Shoe-making has been carried on since the Reformatory was opened, but it has not proved as successful as I had hoped. A number of trade instructors have been tried, but we have failed to secure one who was at the same time trustworthy and a competent workman. It is especially in this factory that materials are wasted and made away with. A fair number of orders are received, but large numbers of shoes are returned as misfits, and have to be sold for less than the cost of the materials. A number of boys have been trained to be really good shoe-makers: but I find that of ten boys discharged from the school who had been taught this trade, only two now earn their living by it. I should have no hesitation in advising this industry to be put a stop to if I could suggest anything suitable to take its place.

Carpet-weaving was started in July last at the request of Sir John Tyler. Only a small number of boys have been taught this industry. All the qualins made have been sold."

Surgeon-Lieutenant-Colonel E. Mair is a law unto himself. Carpet-weaving is not sanctioned by the rules of the Reformatory. Another departure was the punishment of imposing gunny-clothing. Two of the boys were for the first time so punished for destroying school property. The sanctioned punishments are—flogging; hand-caning; solitary cells with penal diet; solitary cells; morning meal stopped; reduction from monitorship; suspension from monitorship; gratuity stopped; change of labour; locked up at play hour; warned. The Superintendent completed the dozen. Why not take out a patent of a Mair cat o' twelve?

We are glad to find that nothing escapes the eye of the Officiating Lieutenant-Governor. Not only the departures are prohibited, but order is made to take order for restriction of the teaching of trades.

One of the punishments speaks of gratuity. Gratuities are earned by good conduct, diligence in school and work in the factories. The best boy earns an anna a week. He is allowed to spend half, the other half being placed to his credit in the Savings Bank which he can draw on release. During the year 1894, Rs. 238-3-9 was paid as gratuity and Rs. 107 13 6 deposited in the Bank.

As was to be expected, the Jamnagar succession is not to go uncontested. But there is no legally constituted Court to decide the question. The Foreign Office is the arbiter of our Princes and has already put one on the *gadi*, and it is not likely that it will undo its own work. As king-maker, it is to be supposed that, like a king, it can do no wrong. The *Pioneer* tries to justify the elevation of Jaswantsingji, the younger morganatic son as it describes him, to the exclusion of Ranjitsingji who was adopted as heir and who would succeed the Jam Vibhaji in ordinary course, as the next heir of pure blood, and to the supersession of the elder morganatic son and his son, all of whom were proclaimed heir by the last Jam. Repeatedly requested by Jam Vibhaji, the British Government had refused to acknowledge any of the sons so put forward, reserving its right to choose the successor when the time came. When that time arrived, without examining the claims of others, it at once installed the youngest of them all, a minor. This virtually places the Raj under the administration of the Foreign Office and a British Political. In the same way, the youngest of the three brothers searched out to supply a Gaekwar, was selected, that the Baroda State might long be under British management. Mutharani Jumna Bai stoutly stuck to the eldest. At last, a compromise was made when the second succeeded the deposed Mulharrao. The *Pioneer* makes no secret of the preference in the present succession. It says: "It should be recollected that the Jamanagar State is in debt, and that there is need of the introduction of several reforms. At any rate this is the opinion of the Political Agent, publicly expressed at the installation of the new Jam. Under these circumstances a minor, who is well in hand, is perhaps more acceptable to the Bombay Political Department than one who has been lionized in England—not as a semi-barbaric Oriental curiosity, but as an educated Indian nobleman, who has excelled in the national game of England." Minority of the Chief may be a blessing to a State, but is the rightful heir, on that account, to be kept out of his due? An incapable Chief is easily shunted out of the *gadi*. The present ruler of Bhurtpore was accepted, against the wishes of his father, that he might be sent out of his dominions. The writer whom we have quoted seems to think that royal houses in India, proud Udeypore not excepted, cannot claim purity of blood. "Even among the Jareja Rajputs, to whom the late Jam belonged, there was a notorious case of a Moslem marriage." A son of his, therefore, by a Mussalmani need not therefore be unacceptable to the people of Jamnagar. But are they prepared to accept him? If there were no opposition he might pass. The British Government ought not lightly to reject an objection based on bastardy. It is no crime of the base-born. But the stain sticks to him. It is as much galling to himself as to the people over whom he is set to rule. Gopal Sing of Chamba, as we only last week pointed out, had to abdicate. Maharajkumar Bulwant Rao Scindia was not allowed the uppermost hand in the Gwalior Council of Regency, though he was fitted by education, because of his blot. We do not know Ranjitsingji and are not aware that he has made a claim. His inclination confines him to the cricket field where he is earning glory in another part of the world. He seems content with the allowances paid him by the Durbar. Kilubhai is differently minded. He thinks he is the rightful heir to the late Jam, the son of his father who was proclaimed heir-apparent. The father might have been discarded, but the right through him remains.

THE Mussulmans in London have held a demonstration in opposition to the movement against the Sultan in connection with what are called Armenian Atrocities. Those who cannot endure a Mahomedan sovereign in Christian Europe have, before the Commission now sitting, has spoken, spoken out their mind, fixing the guilt on the Sultan, his officers and men. The oppositionists make no such bold assertion. They cry—Wait till you have heard the last. The proceedings of the meeting will be found elsewhere.

ONE Bhutnath Day had come down to Calcutta from Baidyabat for treatment of his left eye which was diseased. He was admitted to the Mayo Hospital. There he was put under chloroform and his eye operated upon. After it, he did not recover consciousness, and died. The morning papers report that he was a confirmed opium-eater. An opium-eater has many sins to answer for. Was the present death due to opium? At the coroner's inquest, Dr Gibbons who made the post mortem examination said that he found no marks of violence on the person and his opinion was that the deceased had died from a sudden shock immediately after the operation. The verdict was that the deceased had met his death by a sudden shock, which terminated simultaneously with the failure of the heart's action. We are tempted to ask—To what was the failure of the heart's action due? How was the shock produced? Was opium the direct cause of both? Had chloroform or its administration nothing to do with them? The published report of the case is very unsatisfactory. Will no full report appear?

MR Silk has been accepted by the Municipal Commissioners as their Chief Engineer during the absence on leave of Mr. Kimber. An attempt was made to introduce an Indian to the post. There was more than one such candidate, but the only name proposed was that of the retired Engineer Rai Bahadur Madhub Chunder Roy. He obtained 25 votes, while his successful rival in service had two more.

Mr. Skrine had, before the voting commenced, protested against balloting. The Commissioners have long adopted that form of expressing their preferences, intending to vote according to their conscience uninfluenced by any extraneous considerations.

THE mortality from small-pox has gone down to ten. That was the number last week; the week before it was 24. There was a sort of debate, a one-sided one, on the subject on Thursday. Two of the medical Commissioners, one a European and the other a native, condemned the vaccination as performed during the epidemic. To say the least, it was most perfunctorily done. "The lancets were all dirty, the rags on which they were wiped were dirtier still, the calves were far from clean

and healthy, and, in fact, much of the vaccination had been more or less only blood-poisoning operations." It is a terrible charge, but comes too late for any immediate practical action. The mischief, if any, has been done and cannot be mended. The Health Officer may have his own explanation. The subject ought not to be easily and lightly disposed off. The present epidemic may have ceased to cause alarm. It is expected to break out again. Who knows the next visitation will not prove more virulent?

REIS & RAYYET.

Saturday, June 15, 1895.

THE CUSTOMS REPORT.

OWING to the reimposition of duties, last year, on most of the articles of Indian imports and exports, the work of the Customs House of Calcutta has of late become an extremely onerous one. We are agreeably surprised to find that the officer in charge, Mr. F. H. Skrine, has been able to bring out the report for that year within a couple of months. It does not deal with the whole of India, but is confined to Calcutta and the ports subordinate to it, namely, Puri, Cuttack, Balasore, Chittagong and Narayanganj. The figures given and the remarks made are all highly interesting, and deserve careful perusal.

The total exports of Calcutta amounted to Rs. 45,80,59,114 and the aggregate value of the imports was Rs. 27,44,43,275. Mr. Skrine as a Government official has not been able to explain the significance of these figures. It must be apparent to every one acquainted with even elementary principles of the economical science, that, during the last official year, Bengal alone gave more than eighteen crores of rupees to England without receiving any tangible returns. English publicists and statesmen, and some of our countrymen too, may rejoice at this "expansion of our foreign commerce" as they call it. Strictly speaking, it is no commerce at all. For true commerce involves giving as well as taking; whereas what is called the foreign commerce of India is mainly a gift by the people of India collectively to England. The individual sellers of Indian goods do no doubt get a fair price for what they sell. The figures quoted clearly show that the English merchants do not bring from their home a sufficient equivalent for what they buy and take away from India. In fact, to a great extent, the English merchants serve only as brokers and bankers to the Government. They act as the medium for the remittance of the tribute which India has to pay to England under the name of Home Charges. They advance the amount of this tribute to the Secretary of State and with the equivalent for the same received from the Indian Exchequer, they buy Indian goods making a profit by their sale in other parts of the world. The result is the same as if England took the amount of her Indian tribute in kind and sold the goods to the European markets. Such transaction certainly could not be called commerce, and there is no reason why that name should be given to the same kind of operation when it is carried on through a third party.

To come to details, Mr. Skrine takes a very hopeful view of our jute mills. He says:—

"The exports of *Gunny Bags* have rapidly expanded during the last five years, reaching the highest figures yet tabulated in the past year, the increase in comparison with 1893-94 being 8 per cent.

There were increased shipments to the United Kingdom, to the United States and to Australia, against decreases to Egypt, China (Hong-Kong), and the Straits Settlement.

The advance to the United Kingdom is a most satisfactory one, showing that *Calcutta-made Bags* are continuing to find favour with the home consumers. It seems to be only a question of time for the Indian-made article to supplant the production of Dundee. These increased shipments were made in the face of a bad market and poor trade. Possibly the low rates of exchange have had some effect in producing these large shipments.

To Australia the increase was 39 per cent., due no doubt to the large *Wool* crop and the larger exports of *Wheat* of last year.

The increase in direct shipments to the United States is more than counterbalanced by the fall in those to Hong-Kong, most of the *Bags* sent to the latter being intended ultimately for San Francisco.

In contrast to conditions prevailing in Dundee, the *Jute* trade in Bengal has had a most satisfactory year, a large crop enabling very handsome profits to be made; and most of the mills have paid good dividends. Full time has been worked throughout the year, and efforts are being made to increase production by the introduction of the Electric Light to enable the mills to work all night. Extensions are also being carried out in many mills with the same idea.

Times are at present good for *Jute Mills*, and proprietors are apparently anxious to take advantage of them. This is a very natural desire, but there is the danger of increasing the production to such an extent that the supply will largely exceed the demand, and then will come a crash, unless old markets can be extended and new ones found. Some years ago such a state of affairs did occur; and the trade fell into a most unsatisfactory condition, from which it took some time to recover. It is to be hoped that the extensions now in progress will not cause history to repeat itself."

We may well wonder that Dundee has not followed in the wake of Manchester to advocate the imposition of excise duties on the Indian Mills and more stringent Factory law.

If left unhampered, our cotton mills might no doubt flourish in the same manner as the jute mills. We read in the report:—

"The *Cotton* trade in Lancashire during the past year was of an unsatisfactory character both to spinners and manufacturers, but particularly to the former. With a large crop of *American Cotton* there was a constant fall in the price of the raw material throughout the year, of course resulting in lower prices of *Yarn*. Oldham, the centre of the spinning industry, has been a great sufferer, and the returns of the Limited Liability Companies show losses on the working of the year. These have been so heavy that it is stated that many mill-owners would be glad to abandon the trade altogether, if they could find purchasers for their depreciated property."

The wisest course for the cotton lords of Manchester would be to give up their philanthropy and their new fangled Free Trade doctrine, and to remove their mills at once to India. Here, with cheap labour and cheap cotton, they are sure to make a profit. This ought to be obvious to them if they rightly understand the principles of Free Trade. With regard to the effect of the recent Tariff Act on the transaction of the dealers in piece-goods, Mr. Skrine makes the following observations:

"In July and August, repeated rumours that import duties on *Cotton Goods* would be re-imposed at the beginning of the next financial year raised the feeling that it was quite possible such would be the case, with the result that, in the hope of getting their goods free of duty, importers and dealers ordered largely for delivery not later than the end of January 1895. The import duty was re-imposed on the 27th December 1894, and many of the goods previously ordered to avoid duty had to pay it. I am informed that on these transactions, consumers did not pay the duty, which was paid by the dealer on forward contract and by importers on unsold goods, and on new contracts for the months January to March. By this is meant, no doubt, that prices did not immediately rise in

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proportion to the duty, but that they have done or will ultimately do so, is certain."

If the duty on cotton piece-goods had been levied at the beginning of the year, it would have brought a large amount of revenue to the Exchequer, and saved the merchants from the losses to which they have been subjected. The vacillating policy of Government has not, we fear, done any good to any of the parties concerned. It was simply a political concession to Manchester to make out a case of strong necessity.

In connection with the subjects under consideration, we cannot do without making some observations as to the importance of the diffusion of the knowledge of trade statistics and of the economical laws regarding the production, distribution and exchange of wealth. Such study is of great importance not only to persons connected with commercial business, but to almost all classes of people, especially to those who have any philanthropic zeal for the good of this country. In the absence of a thorough knowledge of the principles of the economical science, and of the present commercial relations of the different countries, trade naturally partakes of the nature of gambling and of leaps in the dark, which may lead an adventurer to a windfall of fortune or to the Insolvency Court. The same kind of ignorance often leads the best men of our country to rejoice at the expansion of India's foreign commerce, or to clamour for the reduction of the salt duty. When those who are supposed to be the most enlightened in the land are capable of taking such views, it is no wonder that the masses have misconceptions of a still more serious nature. In fact, the majority of our countrymen have a deep-rooted belief that our British masters have taken away from India all the gold and silver on which they could lay their hands, and that they have left to us instead only some pieces of paper in the shape of currency notes and Government Security bonds. The British Government has a far greater source of danger in such unfounded beliefs among the people of this country, than in the threatening attitude of the Russian Bear in the north-western frontier of India. And it is for this reason that we have repeatedly pointed to the necessity of imparting to the students of our schools and colleges a sound knowledge of Political Economy, and of the main facts and figures relating to the foreign commerce of the country. The study of Milton, Byron, Michael Madhu Sudan and Bankim has no doubt its advantages. But the student who has a sufficient knowledge of the languages in which their works are written may read them *suo moto* for the pleasure derivable from them, and it does not seem to be necessary to make them compulsory text books.

A VOICE FROM DINAJPORE.

TO THE EDITOR.

THE trial, under section 330 I. P. C., of Braja Rakhal Sanyal, a Sub-Inspector of Police, came to an end on the 3rd, resulting in the acquittal and discharge of the accused. The Crown was represented by Mr. Girth, Mr. Chowdhury, Baboos Ram Ratan Pattack, Prameshwar Dan, Rakhal Dass Sen, local pleaders, while the accused was defended by Mr. White, Baboos Madhab Chandra Chatterjee, Mon Mohan Ray, Lallit Chandra Sen and Prassana Kumar Bose. The case had been watched with interest by the outside public; the result has been a rude shock to them. The judgment of the Sessions Judge, Mr. R. R. Pope, is anything but satisfactory. This is the more so as he was pleased to comment upon the evidence of the most respectable persons who were examined for the prosecution in the way which has greatly compromised their reputation in the estimation of their fellowmen. The prosecution had its origin in the theft of some gold ornaments off the person of a child of the Court Sub-Inspector Baboo Girish Chandra Dutta. On the 7th of March three menial servants of the local Zemindar, Ray Sahib, were arrested on suspicion and taken to the Police Station by the accused Inspector. With the help of two constables, who were also the accused in the present case, and after threatening them with punishment for theft should they refuse to give up the stolen property, he gave a sound beating to the two servants, named Jagabandhu and Sham, in the presence of Girish Bakshi, another servant of the said Zemindar, who had accompanied them to the thana. The absent Zemindar too had his share. The vilest abuse, which, to say the least, forms a part of the vocabulary of the native Bengal Police, was addressed quite gratuitously to Ray Radha Gobinda Ray Sahib, who was then at Monghyr. I blush to write the words; the witnesses to the abuse refused for "the sake of decency," to repeat them. To say that vulgar epithets were used, is to detract much from their offensiveness. The Sessions Judge is of opinion that Babu Kally Mohan Sen, a witness for the prosecution, "is the mainspring of the case," and, if I have properly understood the judgment, his son, a graduate of the Calcutta University, who, according to the Judge, expects to succeed his father as am-mooktear to the Ray Sahib, and his son-in-law, a practising pleader of the Judge's Court, a person well versed in Hindu Shastras, truthful, honest and independent, are all held by the Judge as severally and jointly contributing to the case for the prosecution. The Sessions Judge has gone the length of saying that the conduct of this latter witness, while under examination, gave the lie to his words. I profess my inability to realize the import of this stricture upon the witness, as I did not observe any peculiar expression in his countenance, nor did I find his demeanour betraying any hesitation or premeditation. These three were respectable witnesses, yet the Judge disbelieved them. The antecedents of the Sub-Inspector might fairly raise a presumption, that he might have, on this occasion, pursued the conduct alleged against him. While the respectability of the witnesses might plead against their joining in a conspiracy to humble the Inspector. It was attempted to elicit in his cross-examination that Kally Mohun Sen had a private grudge against the accused, but no evidence was given in that behalf. Two persons, who were selected as assessors, gave their verdict adverse to the defence the one entertained a legal doubt as to the complicity of the accused persons in the offence charged to them and the other believed that two of the accused were guilty, there being no evidence of any kind against the third.

The case will probably be taken up to a higher Court.

ONE PRESENT IN COURT.

Dinajpore,
The 11th June, 1895.

A MUSSULMAN PROTEST.

A meeting of Mussulmans now in London to protest against "the mischievous, unjust, and ill-advised attempt of the Armenian agitators to prejudice the mind of the British public against Islam and the Sublime Porte," was held at the Westminster Town Hall on May 15, under the auspices of the Anjuman-i Islam. The president of the society, Molvi Nasir Uddin Hossain, occupied the chair, and a large proportion of those present were Mohammadens. The audience also included a number of ladies.

The Chairman said:—Ladies and Gentlemen, I am not going to take up much of your time, but will merely say a few words. The Eastern Question has become accentuated and threatens a crisis. Loud denunciations are levelled at Islam, the Sublime Porte, and it is therefore by all means right that we should come together in our hundreds in order to thresh out the question in full. (Hear, hear.) Let us approach the subject with impartiality, but let us also demand a reciprocal impartiality from the other side. (Hear, hear.)

It has always been the proud boast of Englishmen that they condemn no man without a fair and impartial hearing. (Cheers.) Gentlemen, I for one rejoice to belong to this mighty empire whose kingdom is stretched from shore to shore. I approach this question in no crusading aspect, but, gentlemen, I do expect the same from our opponents. (Cheers.) How great then was my disappointment you can readily imagine when I heard the impatient denunciations of His Grace the Duke of Argyll. Here we have an eminent statesman who accuses Turkey of the vilest atrocities, and that, too, while the question is under investigation. (Cheers.) We have met here to cry out against this unrighteous haste and we are entitled to be heard. (Loud cheers.) In the burning plains of India Her Majesty's sway extends over nearly 70,000,000 Moslem souls. Shall you rashly arouse the religious animosities of such numbers as these? No, a thousand times no. Gentlemen, on declaring war the real and the avowed motives of the statesman are often as wide apart as the poles asunder. How often has the advancement of civilisation simply been a mere excuse for the action of the kings? How many crimes have been committed at the instigation of Russia, that enemy of liberty? (Cheers.) You are indeed playing into the hands of Russia to breathe these vile stories of reporters, put about to form an excuse for Russia to annex Armenia and to weaken Turkey in every way. Then, ladies and gentlemen, what will happen if Turkey be dismembered and all her brave Turkish and Kurdish soldiers enrolled under the arms of Russia and designed for the conquest of India? (Cheers.) But the whole story of the atrocities seems to have been exaggerated. Probably the troops of the Sultan have been called in order to quell a riot. But is the sacred home of our religion to be desecrated on such a charge as that? No, say rather that the Turks and the Armenians are living side by side in contentment and peace. (Loud cheers.) There is no necessity for a Jacob to drive the rude aggressors away. What are you going to do? Are you going to expel 6,000,000 Turks, and to leave the whole country for 1,000,000 Armenians? And how are you going to distinguish them? They are scattered all over the plains? You will have, in the words of Byron, to make a solitude and call it peace. (Cheers.) You will say, let a governor be appointed with the sanction of the Powers, but is the arm of Islam to be foreshortened and to be left with a dubious Suzerainty? That is not justice, that is not international morality, that is not the good faith that ought to be observed by Princes and Powers. (Cheers.) We confidently believe in the integrity of our Ulemas, and I for one do not believe that the delinquencies of the Turks are greater than those of the other Powers, and that such a step as our opponents suggest would but leave the fair fame of our daughters in the hands of the captors of Russia. (Cheers.) I protest with all the indignation in my power, and I ask you to join with me in protesting against this unrighteous haste of the party politicians in accusing the soldiery of such atrocious barbarities. The stories of the Press have been overdone, and I doubt altogether the correspondence from witnesses at such a distance from Kars that no horse could cover the distance within the time alleged. (Cheers.) My friend, M. Ximenes, has avowed from his personal knowledge that the Armenians and Turks are living happily together, and the Armenians being the commercial class they supply all the wants and necessities of the Turks. I must say in the end, what good purpose would it serve the Sublime Porte to inflict such barbarities on his subjects? (Cheers.) Has he not the policy not to attract the attention of Europe by misrule and misgovernment? (Hear, hear.) Gentlemen, then I must ask my opponents to show the same respect that was shown by the draughtsmen of that great charter--I mean Magna Charta---and not to condemn Turkey before the result of the International Enquiry is known to us. (Loud cheers.) Till that time I shall continue to believe that Turkey dispenses her favours with equality, her laws with justice, and her administration with mercy. (Mr. Ghain: No; and loud cheers.)

Mr. M. A. Ghain, B. A., then moved the following resolution:---

"That this meeting of Mussulmans, representing the opinion of all Mahomedans - of whom over 60,000,000 are Her Majesty's loyal subjects in India, protests against the indiscriminate and violent abuse of the Mahomedan religion and Mahomedan humanity, which marked the speeches at the Armenian meeting in St. James' Hall, on May 7th, and strongly protests against the crusade that is now being preached in England against Islam."

Mr. Ghain said the reason why they did not, like the Anglo-Armenian agitators, curse a large portion of their fellow beings was, perhaps, because they were not Christians. Their object was not to countenance any atrocities or misrule in Turkey, but to strengthen the arms of the true reformers of Turkey. (Cheers.) Mr. Gladstone, he said, that great ecclesiastical agitator---(cheers and laughter)---and inveterate foe of the Mahomedans, had committed several inconsistencies. While he avowed his desire to steer clear of any irresponsible testimony, he yet lends his name and support to the irresponsible and inaccurate testimony given in Mr. Green's book. Mr. Gladstone was simply playing into the hands of reckless and unscrupulous intriguers whose philanthropy is ever ready when it can serve their political purposes. (Cheers.) Referring to the Duke of Argyll's speech, in which he said the war of 1876 arose out of the crimes of the Turks, Mr. Ghain pointed out that Lord Beaconsfield had said that the war was caused by the secret designs of Russia upon Turkey, and was instigated by the Bulgarian insurgents against Turkey. The Duke of Argyll, he said, would attribute all the sins of humanity to the Turks, and that the Turkish Government was so execrably bad that any rebellion against it was just and righteous. (Shame.) The speaker then went on to refute the statement of Canon McCall, and to denounce the language he used towards the Turkish nation, and concluded his address by a protest against the insult to Islam and the Mahommedans ---(cheers)---and said that the British people must keep in view the interests of their vast Mahommedan populations in India, for a blow on their religion would surely recoil upon themselves. (Loud cheers.)

Moulvi Mohamed Ibrahim having seconded the resolution, the Chairman called upon Sir Ashmead Bartlett, M. P., to support it.

Sir Ashmead Bartlett (who was received with loud cheers), said:---Mr. Chairman, ladies and gentlemen, I am not surprised at the indignation which is felt by Mahommedans at the character which the Anglo-Armenian agitation has assumed. The meeting at St. James' Hall made it too evident that the agitation has degenerated into an anti-Moslem crusade. (Cheers.) The most unlimited and indiscriminate abuse was there indulged in against the Sovereign, the army, and the people of the Ottoman Empire. (Hear, hear.) I should not like to repeat the disgraceful language that was used, and used without a shadow of authentic proof, against the Sultan of Turkey and the whole of the Turkish army. (Cheers.) In my opinion, however, the worst feature of this agitation lies in the fact that the same people consitute themselves the prosecutors, the witnesses, the jurors, and the judge in the trying of the charges that are so lavishly made against the Turkish Government. (Hear, hear.) At this moment a Commission---and we have every reason to believe an efficient and trustworthy Commission---is investigating with great thoroughness into the charges of massacre and outrages which have been circulated with regard to the Sasson district. (Cheers.) Attached to that Commission there are three European officials nominated by England, Russia, and France. The Commission itself was appointed by the Sultan of his own motion directly he realised the gravity of the charges made. (Cheers.) Yet these reckless villifiers of Turkey and the Mohammedan faith have not the decency to wait until the Commission has reported. (Hear, hear.) They assume all the charges against Turkey to be true. (Cheers). They multiply and exaggerate tenfold the charges that exist, and they proceed deliberately to condemn the Government, the whole army, and the whole people for these charges which, even if true, could only involve the responsibility of a very small fragment of the Turkish army. (Hear, hear.) I am not here to palliate misdeeds or cruelties of any kind. (Cheers.) I believe that the Sultan himself will be most anxious and ready to punish any of his officers who may be, on authentic evidence, convicted of responsibility for such crimes as those that have been so widely charged against the Turkish troops. (Cheers.) Examination will, I believe, reduce the thousands alleged to have been killed to a few hundred, and the hideous outrages said to have been committed to some misdeeds of isolated troops, which all will deplore and hope to see punished if true. (Cheers.) I well remember the case of the so-called Bulgarian atrocities, how the action of the Turks was misrepresented, magnified, and calumniated in every way; how not one-twentieth part of the tales of outrage and massacre that were deliberately asserted to be true were ever proved; and how it was shown that the provocation came in the first place from the Bulgarian insurgents who had been stirred up by Russian money and Russian agents. These Bulgarian insurgents committed most horrible atrocities upon Mussulman women and children. (Hear, hear.) It was the right and knowledge of these crimes that drew reprisals, and even then to a very limited extent, upon the Christian Bulgarians of Roumelia. (Hear, hear.) No crimes were proved against the Turkish soldiery during the whole of the terrible war of race and creeds, in spite of the awful provocation which the Turks received from the barbarities of the Russian and Bulgarian troops. (Cheers.) I made it my business at the time to go out to the countries where these crimes were said to have taken place to investigate so far as was possible their truth, and I came to the conclusion which every other impartial investigator came to that not one tithe of the charges brought against the Mussulmans at that time were true, and that no charges were substantiated against the regular soldiers of the Ottoman Empire. (Loud cheers.) A more gallant, resolute, well-disciplined, splendid body of men than the Ottoman regular army cannot be found among the armies of the whole world. (Loud cheers.) And that, gentlemen, is the testimony of every man who knows anything about them. Every British officer who has ever worked with them, every honest Correspondent who has ever gone with them, seen them fight, or followed in their track, has given the same evidence. Read what Mr. Archibald Forbes,

the correspondent of the *Daily News*, a paper most bitterly hostile to Turkey and the Turks, read what he said in his articles written subsequent to the Russo-Turkish war of 1877 about the splendid behaviour of the Turkish regular soldiers. (Cheers.) Ah, gentlemen, what is the truth about the Bulgarian atrocities of 1876? Bulgaria was a peaceful and a flourishing country, more flourishing than many portions of the Christian-governed countries in Europe. Russian agents and Russian gold with great difficulty stirred up an insurrection in the southern portion of Bulgaria, on the high road of the Turkish Empire in Europe. The Bulgarian insurgents rose, and they committed horrible atrocities upon the Mussulman non-combatants, women and children, and it was in retaliation for these atrocities, which were witnessed by the Pomak Militia, that is the Mussulman-Bulgarians who were called out to repress the insurrection of the Bulgarian Christians that such evil deeds as at that time were committed, and these, as I said, were exaggerated twenty to one hundredfold. Then over a million of the innocent Mussulman peasantry, most of them women and children, were driven from their homes, exposed to every extremity of outrage and slaughter, and to the severest trial of the elements. (Shame.) Happy those who perished of starvation and cold and escaped the barbarous inhumanity of their so-called Christian enemy. (Cheers.) Nearly half a million of innocent non-combatants, women and children, perished during, and in consequence of, that horrible war. I should have liked to have seen, or to see now, some of the indignation which has been so lavishly squandered on the alleged woes of the Armenian mountaineer, devoted to the sufferings of the Mussulman inhabitants of Turkey. (Cheers.) This gross exaggeration of the evil deeds of the Turk and Mussulman rouses my keenest indignation, and makes me ashamed of the injustice and the hypocrisy of men who call themselves Christians, and pretend to be the leaders of the Christian sentiment. (Loud cheers.) This matter has a very serious aspect for British interests. There are over sixty millions of the Queen's subjects in India---the bravest, most loyal, most stable portion of our Indian fellow-subjects, who belong to the Mussulman faith. (Cheers.) There are thirty more millions of the Queen's subjects in different parts of the world of the same creed. What will these people say? What will our Mussulman allies like the Amir of Afghanistan say when they hear of this vengeful, unjust, and wicked crusade against Islam? (Cheers.) Our fanatical agitators are trying to make out that all Mahommedans, and that every Turk and every man who professes the Mahommedan creed is necessarily barbarous, cruel, and backward. I hope I may say without offence to any gentleman of the Mahommedan faith here, that I believe in my own faith, that I believe in the Christian religion, and that because I believe in it I should like to see all men belong to the Christian religion. (Cheers.) But I would no more judge the Christian religion by the deeds of the inquisition of Torquemada 350 years ago---(cheers)---or by the intolerance of the Christian prelates who burnt Joan of Arc five centuries ago, than would I judge Mahommedans or the Mahommedan faith by the ridiculous fables which are set about now by fanatical agitators like the Bishop of Hereford and Canon McCall. (Loud cheers.) What business has Mr. Gladstone and the Duke of Argyll to pose as the champions of the Christians and the reformers of Turkey. They were members of the Cabinet whose blindness and weakness caused the Crimean War. (Loud cheers.) They were in office for nearly twenty years after the Crimean War, with almost boundless powers. Why did they not do something, when they had the authority and the power, to enforce upon Turkey the reform which at this thirteenth hour they have discovered to be so necessary. (Cheers.) Blindly and recklessly our Government are plunging into the disasters so carefully prepared for them and for the British Empire. (Hear, hear.) They have alienated our own allies in Europe---the great peace league of Germany, Austria, and Italy. They have based their policy with regard to Turkey upon an alliance with our hereditary rivals and foes, France and Russia. (Hear, hear.) The British Government is being led by the nose to harrass and treat unjustly the Ottoman people by the very Powers that are now scheming and plotting against British interests in every quarter of the globe. (Cheers.) Was there ever such gross ineptitude as that shown by Anglo-Armenian agitators and by the British Government, which is allowing the policy of a great country to be dictated by the ignorant and fanatical prejudices of a band of irresponsible crocheteers. Treat the Sultan and the Turks with fairness and with justice. If you think that they have done wrong, speak to them in the language of allies and of friends, and I believe the Sultan and the Turks will only be too glad to take our advice. (Cheers.) But do not believe that the Turks are so foolish as to follow the advice of Great Britain when they see Great Britain led by the nose by powers that are not only the hereditary foes of England and of English interests, but also the undying enemies of Turkey and of the Mahommedan faith. (Loud cheers.) I say that there never was such gross inaptitude shown by any Government as to allow the policy of our great country to be dictated by the ignorant and fanatical prejudices of a band of irresponsible crocheteers. I have felt bound to speak as I have spoken to-night, because I believe that the alliance of Turkey will prove before long to be necessary for the maintenance of the greatness of our Imperial power. (Cheers.) I believe that it is most inexpedient on our part to create a feeling in the minds of the 90,000,000 of Mahommedan subjects of the Queen that there is no truth, nor honour, nor justice for them in the British press or before British audiences. But I am actuated by higher motives even than these, which, though just motives, may be discarded as motives of expediency. I am guided by the determination that, so far, at least, as my humble power goes, the same justice shall be meted out to Mussulmans by Christians as is demanded by Christians from Mussulmans. (Loud and prolonged cheers.)

Mrs. M. T. Keep, of New York, U.S.A., having addressed the meeting in support of the resolution, the latter was again read and carried unanimously.

Moulvi Syed Skerfuddin Ahmad then proposed the second resolution in the following terms:--

"That this meeting protests against the wholesale imputations of cruelty and inhumanity, and the insolent abuse, which have been levelled against the Sultan of Turkey, and the Turkish army, without any authentic evidence of their truth, and before the Commission appointed by the Sultan to investigate into the alleged atrocities carried on in the Sassun district, on which Commission there are three European members, has made its report."

He said that his responsibility in reading and moving this resolution lay in the fact that so far only one side of this question had been put before the British public. (Cheers.) To an onlooker who knows nothing of the Eastern question it would seem that the Turks were actuated by a feeling to exterminate and annihilate the Armenians. This he said they denied *in toto*. We should bear in mind that when the Turks were in a position to annihilate their Christian subjects with impunity, and when Europe dared not raise its voice, whatever they did, they never thought of having recourse to any such measures. It is therefore an insult to common sense to suggest that they were actuated by such a spirit now that they have enemies within and without. All the incriminating articles which have so far appeared have emanated from Armenian sources, and the Turkish aspect of the question has never been put before the British public. (Cheers.) When this has been done, then will be the time to pronounce judgment. Agitators have been at work in Armenia, inciting the population to rise; and rebellions are not put down with rose water; they must be put down by force. (Cheers.) He said that they here to-night represented no insignificant portion of the British Empire, and they had a right to raise their voice when they saw thousands of their dumb co-religionists unjustly treated, and their religion insulted at public meetings in England. Those who cry out about the duties of England to Armenia should not forget the duty they owe to their subjects in India. If injustice is done to Turkey they will henceforth lose all faith in England, and believe we are too much under the influence of the bigoted narrow-minded priests, whose chief aim is to keep Christendom always in hostility against the Mahommedan nations. (Cheers.)

Admiral of the Fleet, Sir J. Edmund Commerell, V.C., G.C.B., (who on rising was received with loud cheers), said:---

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,--There is one thing this meeting may be pretty well certain of, that, in consequence of Canon McCall's letter to the *Times* of the day before yesterday, it is not his intention immediately to hoist his flag in the Mediterranean fleet, bombard Smyrna and the rest of Arabia, depose the Sultan, and become King of Armenia himself. He is going to put that off for a time. (Laughter.) As far back as the 18th December I wrote a letter to the *Times*, a letter which has been considerably criticised by many people, but I am happy to say from the letters which I have received, favourably criticised. This letter has excited the anger of the Canon. I stated mere facts; I stated that I had had a great deal of experience---practical experience, not theoretical---for thirty years in Turkey and in Asia Minor; that for over eight months out of that time I had been in the closest possible connection with a Turkish army of 30,000 men, and that I found them the most orderly, excellent, kindly, charitable people that I ever came across. (Loud cheers.) It has been described in one of these penny-a-liners that Turkish soldiers were in the habit of carrying babies about on their bayonets. Well, gentlemen, I told Canon McCall, who no doubt had read the *Times* (and my letter was pretty well discussed), that I said in that letter that my experience was that in place of carrying babies about on their bayonets, that I had seen these poor fellows, who are very very hard up and kept on very low diet, a couple of biscuits a day---I don't know what our Tommy Atkins would do upon a couple of biscuits --I have seen these men sitting by the roadside feeding the poor little orphan children of the refugees who had come down to Gallipoli, driven there by the barbarities of the Bulgarians and the Russians. (Loud cheers.) This appears to have excited his anger. I also stated that as chief of the Stafford House Committee at

Gallipoli, I had gone round the hospitals every day and had seen the poor wounded Turks, and to see those men, to see the look of gratitude which they had on their faces, to see them as you went round clasp your hand and make the salaam, and by every motion and every look of their eyes tell you that they blessed you for the kindness that you were doing for them. (Cheers.) This also enraged Canon McCall---he did not like it at all. Well, now, gentlemen, I believe Canon McCall to be nothing more nor less than a rampaging political priest. (Loud cheers.) It is an old game he is carrying on, this abominable crusade against the Mussulmans and against their religion. (Hear, hear.) Now I like to be a little practical, I like to explain to you how these lies keep about. Now we are told there is a Mr. Green, who has published a book. I must tell you that about one-half of the book is taken up wholly and solely by extracts from the newspapers. Well, you know, it does not appear to me that that is quite the right way to make a book ; I think if you take a cutting out of a newspaper you should put at the end of it, "The *Times*, 15th April," or "The *Daily Telegraph*, 16th March," that is my idea. (Hear,hear). Well, now, this is one of the things that he states in his book, page 21 :---

"The Fedik read the Sultan's firman for extermination, and then, hanging the document on his breast, exhorted the soldiers not to be found wanting in their duty." Now, that is pretty explicit, is it not? Now, on the next page I suppose he must have forgotten it. This is what appears :---"And so ended the massacre, for the timely arrival of the Commander-in-Chief of the 4th Army Corps from Erzinghan saved a few of the prisoners' lives and prevented the extermination of four more villages." What I want to know is, how could he be there at the beginning of the massacre, read the Sultan's firman, and carry it on his breast if he did not arrive at Sassun until all was over. Now, I could keep you till the middle of the night---which I have not intention of doing---if I read to you all the contradictory reports from this book of Mr. Green, and from the latest very gentlemanly production of Mr. Canon McCall. (Laughter.) Now he has published a book, in which he gave me three pages. Well, I think he must have been very angry with me to have given me three pages out of a not very large book. (Laughter and cheers.) But I will tell you what he does. He tells you in the book that he does got dislike the Turks, that he does not dislike the Mahommedans, but in the preceding pages he dares to tell you the most filthy, monstrous accusations against the Turks. On what authority? On the authority of an Englishman, but he does not give his name, and on the authority of a Turkish teacher. (Shame.) Well, we know perfectly well that Canon McCall had from first to last said that the Turk was not to be believed on his oath. Why then should this Turkish teacher be believed on his oath, when says something which is too horrible to mention? (Hear, hear.) But, gentlemen, all I can say is this ; I should strongly advise Canon McCall to do as we do sometimes at sea, when a man makes use of foul language ; we wash his mouth out with a basin of salt water. (Laughter and cheers.)

The gentleman who proposed this resolution made a statement which I can absolutely affirm is correct. I have been in Constantinople a great many times in my life. I was there only a few months ago. I remained there for three weeks and determined to find out to the best of my ability the truth of the statements. I went to a man whom Mr. Green calls in his book a man of great repute and who knows everything about this question. I said, "Mr. So-and-so (I could give you his name, but as I did not ask him whether I might quote him I will not do so. This gentleman had been there for 35 years, and he has been in Armenia and knows everything about Armenia) "will you tell me the facts of the case." He said, "Admiral, there would be no revolutionary work going on in Armenia if it were not for the revolutionary societies of England. . . " "Oh, no," I said, "that is a little too much." "Yes," he said, "England." "But," I said, "do you mean to tell me that that very respectable Society, the Anglo-Armenian Committee, is revoluttionary? Why, I accused them of it the other day and they wrote me letters-- certainly they were all marked 'private' so that I could not publish them---declaring they were nothing of the kind." (Cheers and laughter.) He said, "Admiral, there are two revolutionary societies in England, one the Anglo-Armenian Society and the other the Armenian Patriotic Society. The Anglo-Armenian Society contains one or two names of gentlemen who are far above revolutionary measures, but they have got one or two black sheep on the committee, and these black sheep have been in communication from first to last with the other revolutionary societies, and are the persons who have been inciting these poor people to rebel." (Shame.) Well, the funny thing about the whole matter is that I think they must have discovered that lately, because I notice that on the Anglo-Armenian Committee one or two of these gentlemen have ceased to appear, and I have no doubt in my own mind that that society is an absolutely revolutionary society, like those at Tiflis, those at Varna, those at Athens, and those at Paris. (Hear, hear.) They have been inciting these poor wretches to rebel, and we know very well what it is when you begin to shoot troops down, when you begin to kill policemen who are sent to get the taxes, and there is hot blood caused, we do not know what may follow. (Hear, hear.) That there may have been a good many men killed is very probable. I believe there have. I see in the papers to-day they have found those two pits at last. Anything more dreadful! Why, gentlemen, the Turkish Government have never denied for one single moment that there were a certain number of men killed in action. Well, when these men are killed, where on earth are you going to bury them unless they are put in pits? (Cheers.)

Well, now, I am not going to keep you any longer, but all I am going to say is this : for God's sake let the English people remember that one of the great attributes which we claim is justice. (Loud Cheers.) Justice for the Christian, justice for the Mahommedan, justice for everybody, not only under our rule, but for whom we have any communication with. (Cheers.) We have no right whatever to express an opinion about these things until the Commission which was accepted by the English Government has reported. When that Commission has reported, when they have seen what has been done, when they point out the justification of what has been done, then, gentlemen, it is time for us to speak. (Loud cheers.)

Mr. A. M. K. Dehlvi had seconded the Resolution, which was now carried nem. con.

Mr. S. J. Meerza then moved the third resolution, as follows ;-:

"That this meeting protests against the gross injustice with which atrocious crimes charged against Mussulmans on mere hearsay evidence and wholly unproved, have been recklessly assumed to be true, while the greater misdeeds of Christian powers committed upon Mussulmans are passed over without condemnation or rebuke."

A gentleman of Liverpool seconded the resolution. He stated that he tried to obtain a hearing at the meeting in St. James' Hall, but failed, supported it, and the resolution was carried unanimously.

The meeting terminated with a vote of thanks to the Chairman and cheers for His Majesty the Sultan.

HE INVESTED ONLY 7/6.

THERE is a man who has spent the part twenty five years of his life exploring for gold and other minerals in Queensland, New South Wales, Victoria, Tasmania, and New Zealand. He has no doubt picked up some money, yet he says that the investment of 7/6 brought him in bigger returns than any other he ever made.

Yet, hold on a minute. Don't let us jump to the conclusion that we can all get rich out of the proceeds of 7/6 till we hear further from this financier. He has a humorous way of putting a serious thing, for which we should like him all the more. Some folk have no idea that sound sense and genuine fun are twin brothers, but they are all the same.

Our friend's name is William Bromfield Peck, and he lives at Russell, New Zealand, a long way off. He says it is a lovely country and intends to stay in it the balance of his days. As he landed in Australia, from England, in 1866, he has been there long enough to know what he is talking about. He advises persons of limited means who would like to become small landholders to emigrate to New Zealand.

Still, he reminds us that in the end we must pay for what we get. "The calling of a prospector, for instance," said Mr. Peck, "is full of hard work. Besides, it entails rough living, such as salt junk, saddened damper, with tea in buckets. One must have the digestive capacity of an ostrich or an anaconda to stand that diet for long. It must therefore be taken as proof of the good machinery inside of my system, when I mention that I actually stood it for nearly twenty-five years.

"My punishment was delayed, you see, but it didn't fail. At last the climax came, and I was prostrated with agonising pain in the stomach and all the other symptoms of a profound derangement of all the digestive organs. I had to knock off work and cease all exertion. I was imbued with disgust with all things mundane. *I believe that dyspepsia is responsible for a large portion of the world's suicides!*"

Mr. Peck's conjecture is exactly parallel with the fact as set forth in the official statistics of all civilised countries. No other disease so demoralises and depresses human nature. It attacks the secret strongholds of the reason and drives people insane ; it stupefies the sensibilities ; it turns men and women into selfish, useless, nuisances ; it impels them to commit crime. All this in addition to their own desolation and suffering. Yes, Mr. Peck is quite right.

But to get back to what he says about himself. At the advice of a friend—Mr. W. Williams of this place I began to take the far-famed Mother Seigel's Curative Syrup. What result did it have? I'll tell you : *It has transformed me from a prematurely old man into one quite regenerated.*

"I am a rapid eater and can't break myself of the bad habit. Hence I make it a point to keep a bottle by me always and an occasional dose when necessary to set me right.

"I can safely assert that the investment of 7/6 in Mother Seigel's Curative Syrup was the best I ever made in all my chequered career. You may depend that I prescribe this medicine to all and sundry people I come in contract with. Prior to using it I spent pounds at different times, but only got partial relief. Syrup seems *to make straight for the seat of the trouble.* I pen these lines just to show other sufferers the way out. There are any number of respectable persons here who can attest the truth of what I have written.—Respectfully (Signed) WM. BROMFIELD PECK, Russell, Bay of Islands, New Zealand, July 2nd, 1892."

We don't call for witnesses. Mr. Peck's tale is farnkness and truth itself. We hold out our hand in greeting across the sea. Dyspepsia is a living death, and Mother Seigel gives new life. Millions sing that chorus. But he had better eat slower. Write again and tell us you are doing so. Friend Peck.

CORPORATION OF CALCUTTA.
LOAN NOTIFICATION.

1. The Commissioners of Calcutta are prepared, with the sanction of the Governor-General in Council given under Section 404 of Act. II. (B. C.) of 1888, to open a Debenture Loan for Rs. 18,00,000 on the security of the rates, taxes and dues imposed and levied under the Calcutta Municipal Consolidation Act, 1888.

2. The Debentures will have a currency of fifteen years from the 1st December, 1895, and will bear interest at the rate of 4 per cent. per annum, payable on the 1st June and 1st December of each year.

3. The form of the Debenture Bonds will be that given in the twelfth schedule of Act. II. (B C.) of 1888.

4. No Debenture Bonds will be issued for any sum less than Rs. 500, and above that amount Debentures will be issued only for complete sums of Rs 100.

5. Tenders for the whole or any part of the above Loan of Rs. 18,00,000 will be received by the Secretary to the Corporation up to 2 o'clock P. M. of Friday, the 28th June, 1895.

6. Each tender must be made out in the form annexed to this Notification, and enclosed in a sealed cover addressed to the Secretary to the Corporation, and superscribed "Tender for Municipal Loan of 1895 96"

7. Each tender must be accompanied by Government promissory notes, Calcutta Municipal Debentures, currency notes or cheques for not less than 3 per cent. of the amount tendered.

8 When a tender is accepted, the deposit, when made in currency notes, or cheques, will be held as a payment in part of the amount tendered, and will bear interest at the rate of 4 per cent. per annum from the date of acceptance of the tender, provided that the whole amount tendered is paid up in the manner hereinafter prescribed; but no debenture will issue for the sum so deposited so long as the entire amount of the tender is not paid.

9 The deposits on tenders which may not and no interest shall be payable on such deposits. If an allotment after being made is not taken up, and the full amount allotted is not paid as hereinafter prescribed, the deposit will be forfeited.

10. The rate at which a tender is made must be specified in rupees, or rupees and annas: a tender in which the rate is not so specified will be rejected as null and void.

11 The rates stated in a tender must not contain any fraction of an anna. If a rate containing fraction of an anna is inserted in any tender, such fraction will be struck out, and the tender treated as if the rate did not contain such fraction of an anna.

12. The amount of the accepted tenders must be paid into the Bank of Bengal in the following instalments:—

One third by the 15th July.
Do by the 14th August.
Do. by the 14th September

Parties whose tenders are accepted will have the option of paying all or any of the instalments before the dates specified above, and will receive interest from the date of such payment.

13 Anticipation interest will be paid on all instalments from the respective dates on which such instalments are paid into the Bank of Bengal to the 30th November, 1895.

14. In the case of two or more tenders at the same rate a *pro rata* allotment will be made (if the tenders are accepted), but no allotment will be issued if the amount distributable on any tender is less than Rs. 500

15. A minimum having been previously fixed, tenders will be opened by the Loan Committee of the Commissioners at 2-30 P. M., on Friday, the 28 th June, 1895, at the Municipal Office.

W. R. MACDONALD,
Secretary to the Corporation.

MUNICIPAL OFFICE.
Calcutta, 28th May. 1895.

FORM OF APPLICATION FOR DEBENTURES

I hereby tender for Rs.
of the Municipal four (4) per cent. Debenture Laon for 1895 96, and agree to pay for the same subject to the conditions notified at the rate of Rupees annas for every Hundred Rupees allotted to me.

I enclose Government promissory notes, Calcutta Municipal Debentures, currency notes or a cheque for Rs.

Signed
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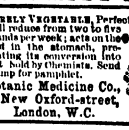

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Pretty electro cased gold chain Re. 1-8-0. Fashionable electro' cased Gold Ring set with scientific diamonds, Rubies, Emeralds, at Re 1 8-0. Mr. G. Smith, Salt Inspector from Sanikutta, says: "A German valued the diamond ring at Rs. 50 and ruby at Rs. 30." Key winding, Government stamped, solid silver hunting case, Royal watch with extras and full three years' guarantee, for Rs. 13 Pte. G. Hawkes of 2nd York Light Infantry from Purandhar says:—For the first one I got Rs 25; the second one I sold to a Sergeant for Rs. 28 × Pte. H. C. Bishop of L F. L. Regt. from Kamptee says:—A Corporal offered Rs. 30 for the very same watch. Gentlemen's open faced, keyless *real solid gold watch* Rs. 30; ladies' Rs. 24; both with extras and guaranteed for 3 years. Mind they are guaranteed to be of real solid gold. No agents kept, all goods sent only by us from Bombay per V. P. P.

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DROIT ET AVANT.

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(PRINCE & PEASANT)

WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

VOL. XIV. CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, JUNE 29, 1895. WHOLE NO. 681.

CONTEMPORARY POETRY.

THE RAJPUT LEGEND OF JAGDEV PARMAR.

(FROM THE RAS MALA.)

BY A. ROGERS, BO.C.S.

(Concluded from page 290.)

" Oh, arbiters of Destiny !" then Jagdev cried ;
" To turn you from your mood is there no way,
No sacrifice by which his precious life
May yet be rescued for his people's good ?"
They answered : " If some other chief, whose rank
Is equal to the king's, would give his life
In place of his, then Sidh Raj would be saved."
" Let me then go," said Jagdev : " if my wife
Give her consent, my life shall be for his."
Scornfully the Fates then answered : " Where the wife
Who for a king would make such sacrifice ?"
But Jagdev went and the king followed close.
The tale was told to Virmati, who cried :
" Oh ! happy chance the gods to us afford
To prove a Rajput's fealty to his salt !
But there is one petition that I crave.
I can not live without thee. Let me, too,
For Sidh Raj Jesangh offer up my life !"
But Jagdev said : " Our children who shall keep ?"
And Virmati said quickly : " Let us all
Offer ourselves ; this to the gods, no doubt,
Will be a far more pleasing sacrifice."
Taking their children by the hand, they went
Out to the Fates, and close behind the king
Still followed wonderingly, although unseen.
Then Jagdev asked the Fates : " How many years
Will ye increase the king's life for my head ?"
They answered : " Twelve." " There are here three lives,
Those of my wife and children, that should bear
An equal value with my own. For all
How many lives will ye vouchsafe the king ?"
" For each twelve years," they answered : " forty-eight."
After one last embrace Virmati gave
Her well-loved first-born to his sire, who struck
Off from its lovely form that tender head.
Then did the Chavati with streaming eyes
Offer the second to his father's sword.
But : " Hold ! Enough !" The Fates their mandate gave.
" Your loyalty before man have ye shown,
And no more need the gods. The precious boon
That ye demanded, Sidh Raj Jesangh's life,
This, with thy children and thy wife, we grant,
And to the king give eight and forty years
To rule a happy and contented folk."
Then tenderly they raised the offered child,
And poured ambrosia on him and he lived.
Then Virmati and Jagdev with their babes
Went happy homewards. From behind the clouds
The moon broke forth and lighted up their path,
Smiling upon them, as the gods in Paradise
Talked to each other of their noble deed.
The king, too, sought his palace and his bed,
And meditated farther trial of their faith.
With morning's dawn came Jagdev to his watch,
But not before those sluggards of the night,
Who had not done their duty, had been asked
Why had the women wailed and sung for joy.
Lying they answered that one set of wives
Mourned for a son by death just snatched away,
And to the other set, who sang for joy,
The gods had given a long-expected heir.
Then turning round to Jagdev Sidh Raj asked
What he had seen. He modestly replied :
" It must be even as the chiefs have said."
The king rejoined : " Nay, I have seen it all.
Do thou now tell the tale as it occurred."
And Jagdev spoke once more : " It is enough.
That all is known unto the king himself."
Then Sidh Raj cried : " Brothers and nobles, hear,
And in your hearts consider well the tale.
The first watch of this day had seen my death ;
The Fates of Delhi would have borne me off,
Had not this Rajput and his noble wife
Offered their own and both their children's lives
A sacrifice for me, to save my life.
One of the children had been offered up
To add on twelve years to my worthless life,
But merciful the Fates restored it back,
Well pleased to know a Rajput's zeal and faith.
For each of four lives twelve years they bestow.
These are the Rajputs at whose paltry pay
Ye grumbled, casting on it longing eyes,
Who when I bade you go forth and enquire
What meant those cries unwonted that I heard,
Cared not to leave your beds of ease, and brave
Yourselves the dangers of the night and storm,
And now have basely lied to hide your shame.
What was there in the pay ? Such service rare,
Ten thousand had I given, and not two,
Sufficient recompense had not received."
Thenceforth on Jagdev Sidh Raj Jesangh looked
As on his equal in the realm, and gave
One of his daughters to him as a wife.

DEAFNESS COMPLETELY CURED ! Any person suffering from Deafness, Noises in the Head, &c., may learn of a new, simple treatment, which is proving very successful in completely curing cases of all kinds. Full particulars, including many unsolicited testimonials and newspaper press notices, will be sent post free on application. The system is, without doubt, the most successful ever brought before the public. Address, Aural Specialist, Albany Buildings, 39, Victoria Street, Westminster, London, S. W.

Subscribers in the country are requested to remit by postal money orders, if possible, as the safest and most convenient medium, particularly as it ensures acknowledgment through the Department. No other receipt will be given, any other being unnecessary and likely to cause confusion.

And Virmati was quite content. She said
It was becoming for a Rajput lord
More than one wife to have upon the earth,
That when they mounted on his funeral pyre,
As *Satis* burning, he in Paradise
Might be right royally attended, too.
They lived at Pattan many happy years,
And when the gods called Udyadit away,
Jagdev succeeded him as king of Dhar.

—*The Imperial and Asiatic Quarterly Review.*

WEEKLYANA.

THE inhabitants of Dover will present the Marquess of Dufferin and Ava with a life-size portrait of himself to be painted by Prince Troubetzkoy.

***

IN London, out of 100 widowers who marry, twelve marry their housekeepers.

***

LAST year, the electors in the United Kingdom numbered 6,268,791. The last return just issued shews that there are 4,959,805 electors in England and Wales, 636,097 in Scotland, and 736,552 in Ireland, or a total of 6,332,454.

***

A SUICIDE in Birmingham justified his conduct thus: "I was not asked to come to this world, and I don't see why I should consult any one when or how I should leave it." The verdict on the death was—suicide while insane.

***

EARLY in this month, the Hungerford Parish Church joined as man and wife, James Thring Coxe, of Newton Lodge, verging upon eighty, and Radbourne, aged eighteen years. The wedding is reported, in the English papers, as of a remarkable character. It is, we suppose, because a man who has exceeded the allotted span of life, with one foot in his grave, leads to the altar a girl with the world before her. Yet the union was a matter of choice for both the parties. In a country where widow marriage is permitted, the case is not so hard for the girl, as we in this country may imagine.

***

IT was a wonder, indeed, which St. Louis witnessed, the wedding of Miss Pauline Devere, hailing from Chester, an animal trainer in Wombwell's Circus, and Harry Bishop, a cowboy, in the lions' cage, with six animals acting as bridesmaids and best man. The report says that "Justice Zimmerman performed the ceremony, at the conclusion of which bride and groom emerged from the cage and received the hearty congratulations of the keepers and the curious crowd." The craving for the curious and the sensational supports the tiger or the lion tamer in his desperate profession. We hope the congratulations of the crowd were more substantial. The marriage, we take it, was a part of the performance of the company.

***

THE Lieutenant-Governor leaves Darjeeling for Calcutta on the 2nd July and arrives at Sealdah on Wednesday, the following day. He will be accompanied by only the Private Secretary, Captain Currie. Under the circumstances, it is needless to say that both the departure and arrival will be private. Two days after, on Saturday, the 6th July, there will be a sitting of the Bengal Legislative Council.

***

MR. David Robert Lyall, Member of the Board of Revenue, and Mr. James Austin Bourdillon, Officiating Commissioner of the Burdwan Division, have been re-appointed members of the Bengal Legislative Council. The appointments of Babu Surendranath Banerjee and Mr. John Gilham Womack are also gazetted.

***

MR. W. E Gordon Leith having taken leave, Mr. C. E. Gray, Barrister-at-Law, will act as Assistant Secretary to the Government of Bengal, in the Legislative Department.

***

THE Supreme Legislative Council has been summoned for Thursday, the 11th of July.

***

THE market rate of exchange for the 2nd quarter of 1895-96 has been fixed at 1s. 1-9/32*d.*, the percentage of salary admissible on account of Exchange Compensation allowance in that quarter being Rs. 17-12-3 approximately.

***

THE dates of the 4th and 5th Criminal Sessions for the year 1895 are—Monday, the 26th August; and Wednesday, the 4th December.

***

SOME of the officers belonging to what was formerly termed the Uncovenanted Service have been made eligible for an additional pension of Rs. 1,000 a year, provided they shall have rendered not less than three years of effective service and shewn special energy and efficiency They are :—

Registration Department.—Inspectors General under Local Governments, but not under Chief Commissionerships.
Police Department.—Inspectors General under Local Governments and Administrations.
Jail Department.—Inspectors General under Local Governments, but not under Chief Commissionerships.
Education Department—Directors of Public Instruction under Local Governments and Administrations.
Account Department—Comptroller and Auditor General. Accountant General. Deputy Comptroller and Auditors General. Assistant Secretary, Finance Department. Comptroller, India Treasuries.
Postal Department.—Director General of the Post Office. Deputy Director General of the Post Office. Postmaster General.
Forest Department.—Inspector General of Forests.
Geological Survey Department.—Director.
Survey Department.—Surveyor General.
Meteorological Department.—Meteorological Reporter to the Government of India.
Political Department—Officers of the rank of Resident in the graded list of the Political Department.

***

THE Home Department has issued for general information a Resolution on the subject of the confirmation of Officiating Cantonment Magistrates. We quote it entire :—

"Officers holding the sole-charge Cantonment Magistracies entered in the list appended to the Resolution No. 9-Judicial 774-784, dated the 18th July 1894, were, by the orders contained in that Resolution, formed into an Imperial service under the Government of India. It is therefore necessary to lay down a definite rule regulating the confirmation of officers officiating in the Department.

2. The Governor General in Council is accordingly pleased to direct that the claims of Officiating Cantonment Magistrates to substantive appointments shall in future be considered by the Government of India in the order in which they entered the Department, irrespective of the Province in which they are serving or in which the vacancy occurs. In accordance with this ruling, when a vacancy takes place in consequence of the death, retirement, etc., of a sole-charge Cantonment Magistrate in one Province, the vacancy will be considered as a vacancy in the Department. The officer selected to fill such vacancy will ordinarily be the officer who has had the longest officiating service in the Department, irrespective of the Province in which he has been so officiating, provided that he is considered by the Local Government under which he is serving, and by the military authorities, to be deserving of confirmation. It will not, however, follow that he will be transferred to the particular cantonment in which the vacancy has occurred. The principle enunciated in the Resolution of the 18th July 1894, that local knowledge and experience should be made use of, as far as possible, will be kept in view, and, in pursuance of this principle, it may at any time be found necessary to place the cantonment vacated in the manner referred to in charge of an officiating officer having local experience. The distribution of the officers, permanent or officiating, in the Department, who are located in a particular Province, will continue to be left to the discretion of the Local Government or Administration under which they are serving and, as was intimated in paragraph 5 of the Resolution of the 18th July 1894, the Government of India will not make transfers from one Province to another without consulting the Local Governments concerned."

***

THE Bengal Government has revised the rules for the payment of the expenses of complainants and witnesses attending the criminal courts. For such purpose, Natives are divided into three classes—ordinary labouring class, natives of higher rank in life, and natives of superior rank. Their diet allowances are fixed at two annas, four annas, and up to Rs. 3 per diem respectively. The rates of travelling allowance are—third class, intermediate class, and second class railway fares. If there is a distinction among the Natives, there is none among Europeans, who are all equal and equal to Natives of higher rank in life.

***

MR. R. L. Upton has been permitted to resign the appointment of Solicitor to Government, Calcutta. Mr. W. K. Eddis succeeds him.

***

THE Governor-General in Council has declared that summonses issued by any Civil or Revenue Court in the Baroda State, may be sent to the Courts in British India and served as if they had been issued by such Courts.

ONE Deokaran, a bunnia of Jubbulpore, has been found, by the Deputy Commissioner, guilty of forging a bond of ten rupees, and sentenced to seven years' rigorous imprisonment. In 1893, he was, for a similar offence, sent to jail for one year.

* * *

THE young Chief of Patna, in the Chhattisgarh Division of the Central Provinces, shot his young wife to death and then killed himself. He had been a student in the Rajkumar School and was only installed Maharaja in January last year.

NOTES & LEADERETTES,

OUR OWN NEWS,

&

THE WEEK'S TELEGRAMS IN BRIEF, WITH OCCASIONAL COMMENTS.

LORD Rosebery has gone out and Lord Salisbury has come in. In the House of Commons, on June 21, during the debate on the Army Estimates, Mr. Brodrick moved an amendment protesting against the inadequacy of reserves of ammunition. Mr. Campbell-Bannerman, Secretary of State for War, contested the remarks of the member for Guildford. On a division, the Government was defeated by seven votes, the figures being one hundred and thirty-two and one hundred and twenty-five. The result was received with the most profound astonishment even among the Opposition. Sir Charles Dilke, Colonel Nolan, and all the Unionists voted with the majority. A Cabinet Council assembled immediately. Another was held the next day in the morning, which, after occupying two and-a-half hours, was adjourned until the afternoon, when the sitting lasted another two hours. It is stated that as Mr. Campbell Bannerman maintained that reserves of ammunition were ample, he looked upon the result of the division as impugning his veracity.

In the House of Commons, on June 24, Sir William Harcourt, Chancellor of the Exchequer, made an offical explanation. He declared that the Ministry entirely shared the responsibility of the attitude adopted by the Secretary of State for War, and the result of the division practically amounted to a vote of censure which compelled the Government to resign. Lord Rosebery made a similar statement in the House of Lords.

Lord Rosebery went to Windsor to place before Her Majesty the resignation of the Government, which was accepted. Lord Salisbury was summoned to form a Ministry. After conferring with his colleagues he proceeded again to Windsor, where in an audience with the Queen he formally accepted office, and kissed her Majesty's hand.

The following posts in the new Ministry have been filled as under :—

Lord Salisbury, Premier and Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs.

Lord Halsbury, Lord High Chancellor.

The Duke of Devonshire, Lord President of the Council.

Sir Michael Hicks Beach, Chancellor of the Exchequer.

Mr. Goschen, First Lord of the Admiralty.

Mr. Balfour, First Lord of the Treasury and Leader of the House of Commons.

Mr. Chamberlain, Secretary of State for the Colonies.

Mr. Henry Chaplin, President of the Local Government Board.

The Cabinet will comprise seventeen or eighteen persons. But it is all temporary. On the 27th, Lord Salisbury stated in the House of Lords that the policy of the Government was to dissolve Parliament at the earliest possible moment. He hoped the necessary business would be finished in time to dissolve on the 8th or 9th of July.

MR CHAMBERLAIN has issued his election address, in which he declares that the Unionists are absolutely agreed to discard the wild constitutional changes planned by the late Government, to devote their attention to constructive social reform and to safeguard the defensive resources of the Empire. The election addresses rendered necessary from those members who have accepted office in the new Ministry agree in deferring any exposition of policy until the general election.

DEAFNESS. An essay describing a really genuine Cure for Deafness, Singing in Ears, &c., no matter how severe or long-standing, will be sent post free.—Artificial Ear-drums and similar appliances entirely superseded. Address THOMAS KEMPE, VICTORIA CHAMBERS, 19, SUTHAMPTON BUILDINGS, HOLBORN, LONDON.

MR. Labouchere and the other Radicals who follow his leadership do not intend, they say, to offer any obstruction to the closing business of the Session, but only desire Parliament to be dissolved as promptly as possible.

THE *Times* points out that the Duke of Devonshire will have the special duty of presiding over the Committee of the National and Imperial Defence, combining both the Admiralty and the War Office now constituted for the first time.

A MANIFESTO has been issued by Mr. Justin McCarthy as leader of the anti-Parnellites pointing out that the worst enemies of Ireland have attained to power. The manifesto also appeals for funds to carry on a campaign at the approaching elections.

PRIOR to the vote on Mr. Brodrick's amendment, the Secretary of State for War announced that the Duke of Cambridge would resign the appointment of Commander-in-Chief on the 1st of October next. In the course of his speech Mr. Campbell-Bannerman highly eulogised the services of the Duke, and also declared that it was not proposed to abolish the office of Commander-in-Chief, but that the functions appertaining thereto would be greatly modified, and the post would only be tenable for a certain term of years. It has been decided that the new Commander-in-Chief, with the Adjutant-General, Quarter-master-General, Director of Artillery, and Inspector-General of Fortifications, shall form a Council, whose duty it will be to advise the Secretary of State for War on all matters relating to the Army.

SIR Arthur Haliburton has been appointed premanent Under-Secretary of State for War in succession to Sir Ralph Thompson, who is retiring.

THE arrangements about the Russo-Chinese loan have collapsed. China objects to pledge her Customs revenue to Russia, as she fears that later on, on that security, a larger loan will be issued in all the markets of Europe and America.

A CONVENTION has been signed at Pekin, settling the boundaries and commercial relation between Yunan and Tonquin. One of the clauses permits the introduction of railways and telegraphs. The treaty concluded between France and China virtually supersedes the projected Buffer State in regard to Siam.

THE Porte is becoming greatly disquieted by the growing agitation in Macedonia in favour of the introduction of reforms stipulated for in the Treaty of Berlin. A Macedonian journal reports that a revolution has broken out at three points. The relations between Turkey and Bulgaria are strained, owing to the former warning the latter to abstain from taking part in the agitation in Macedonia.

A RESOLUTION was moved in the Italian Parliament by the Extreme Left for the appointment of a Committee of Inquiry to report on the conduct and acts of Signor Crispi, who made an eloquent speech in his defence, declaring that he would refuse to submit to any tribunal. The motion was rejected by a majority of 168 votes.

KABAREGA, a powerful Chief in Unyoro, continues to maintain a defiant attitude, and to threaten British posts. News has been received that severe fighting took place on March 3, in which Captain Dunning was killed and Major Cunningham severely wounded. The latter, however, is recovering. The despatch does not state the result of the fighting.

THE Duke of Aosta was married to the Princess Helene of Orleans at Kingston in full French royal state. The spectacle was of a most brilliant description. Fifty English and Foreign Princes and Princesses were present at the ceremony. The town was fully decorated and was thronged with spectators.

THE programme of the National Liberal Federation includes Home Rule, the reform of the Lords, and the Welsh Disestablishment Bill.

THE International Railway Congress was opened on Wednesday by the Prince of Wales.

THE *Daily News* states that Mr. Fowler had decided upon the evacuation of Chitral, but that owing to the change of Government a reversal of the policy is now possible.

IT was a happy hit of the Municipal Loan Committee to fix the rate of interest of the new 18 lakhs loan at 4, instead of going down to 3½. The tenders at par and upwards amounted to Rs. 1,28 47,600. The lowest rate of tender accepted was Rs. 106, the highest Rs. 111. Tenders at Rs. 106 1 and upwards were accepted in full, while those at Rs. 106 will be distributed *pro rata*.

THE question of a *dhobikhana* for Calcutta has been revived. On Thursday, at the adjourned meeting of the Commissioners, a committee was appointed to draw up a scheme for the purpose. It is some time that the Commissioners, following Bombay, had decided to wash the clothes, as they remove the nightsoil. The total initial cost was estimated at Rs 66,000 and the working expenses at Rs. 6,300 per annum. The site was purchased for Rs. 30,000, and then the matter allowed to drop. There was a show of opposition from the suburban Commissioners, but the proposition was carried by a large majority. The recent prosecution of a dhobi for spreading infection seems to have spurred the Commissioners to the Resolution. The Dhobi nuisance is great, indeed The Commissioners will deserve the thanks of the community if they can remove the evil of a dilatory dhobi.

A COMMITTEE was also appointed to report on the dairies or places in which cows and buffaloes are kept within the town and suburbs, for the supply of milk. Towards the close of the discussion that followed the motion, the Chairman said that there were some six hundred cowsheds in Calcutta, few of which were licensed. Hundreds of cattle were sometimes huddled together in a place with hardly a standing space for them all. He knew of places where it was necessary to carry a lantern during the day not to distinguish between the good and the bad but to discover the very existence of the animals. True, the Municipal Act empowered him to close such places. But the power was not enforceable. It would not do to let loose a number of cattle on the streets. What was to be their ultimate destination? He had spoken to Mr. Pearson. If the Honorary Magistrates, like the Chief Magistrate, would heavily punish the keepers, the sheds would quickly improve. Supposing, Mr. Pearson sent all of them to jail, would the sheds be palaces? The law (Sec. 286) says all "stables and cow-houses, shall be under the survey and control of the Commissioners as regards their site, material,‡ dimensions and construction, and shall be altered, supplied with water, connected with a sewer, paved, repaired, kept in proper order, stopped up, or demolished, at the costs and charges of the owner;" and if he "neglect, during eight days after notice in writing, to execute the work in the manner required by the Commissioners, the Commissioners may cause the work to be executed; and the expenses thereby incurred shall be paid by the owner." The Commissioners could not desire for more power. Yet the cowsheds are a disgrace to the town and a cruelty to the animals. Instead of exercising the power quoted, the Commissioners usually prosecute the men for keeping the sheds unclean. Even if they are heavily fined, they find it still profitable not to apply for licenses which are costly Not that heavy fees are claimed, but the costs of improvement demanded are out of all proportion to the income derivable from the trade. Here lies the difficulty. If reforms at moderate outlay could be made, the sheds would have considerably improved by this time. At the present time, municipal prosecutions are confined chiefly to building without permission or not in accordance with sanctioned plan

WE were deeply grieved to learn of the death of Dewan Haridas Viharidas Desai. He will be best remembered in these Provinces and out of India as a member of the Royal Commission on Opium of 1893. He might, if he chose, have been more widely known and much earlier. But he hated notoriety. We wrote of him only in February last, when on his retirement from the Dewanship of Junagad, he was presented with a *khilat* worth Rs. 25,000 and granted a monthly pension of Rs. 500.

'Dewan Saheb Haridas is an inhabitant of Charuttur in Guzerat. His home is at Nadiad, in Zilla Kaira. He is 55 years of age and will be best remembered by our readers as a member of the Opium Commission of 1893. Coming of a family above want, he was in no hurry to take to service. At the age of 32, he was Nawadish and afterwards auditor at Bhawnugger, where he remained for 5 years and four months. Next he was State Karbari at Wadhan for about the same period. Wakanir then wanted his services. The Raja was then just dead leaving a minor 3 or 4 years old. He stayed there as Manager for a year, when the Maharaja of Idar—a branch of the House of Jodhpur, otherwise known as Nani Marwar—attaining majority, appointed Mr. Haridas his Dewan. After a stay there of 14 months, he transferred his services to the Mahomedan principality of Junagad, where he did excellent service for ten long years. A man of no ambition, strictly conscientious, and wishing to pass his latter years in the comforts of home, he took one year's leave preparatory to retirement. When that leave expired he tendered his resignation. It was not, however, accepted, and he was allowed another year's furlough. It was during this period that he joined the Royal Commission. While he was still enjoying his second leave, after the close of the work on the Commission, he was recalled to his duties in the Junagad Durbar, as the acting Dewan, whose services were lent by the British Government, too was recalled to join his permanent post in the British service. The Nawab pressed his Dewan to remain with him till such time as he could find a competent man. The Dewan Saheb, grateful for the consideration shewn him and full of sense of responsibility, had his leave cancelled and rejoined the post from which he has just retired with such honour and dignity. The provision made in his retirement is highly honourable to his master the Nawab.

Mr. Haridas Viharidas Desai is a jewel of a man—simple and unassuming, with the instincts of patriarchal days, gentlemanly feelings, without the vices of Western education, pleasant and agreeable, with a fund of information to instruct and amuse. He may well be proud of having served his country well.'

The Dewan breathed his last early on the morning of Monday, the 17th June. He had just returned from a visit to Junagad, on the invitation of the Vizier Saheb, after a stay there of a fortnight. When he went to and came back from Junagad, he was quite hale and hearty. After a week, he had an attack of slight fever which he did not much mind. It continued for three days. On the fourth day, quite unexpectedly his temperature rose to 104°. Still he was the same jolly good soul that he always had been. On Sunday, he seemed to be well, for he could write to his distant friends. He was rash perhaps to take his bath that day. In the afternoon, the fever began to rise and rose to 107. Up to 6 P.M, he was perfectly conscious and wore his winning smile, replying to inquiries. Then he fell into a calmness which seemed to be sleep, but it was the sleep of death. In death, as in life, he was all peace. Heaven is assuredly his. In his last moments, he expressed no anxiety about himself or those near and dear to him He leaves behind him two daughters and two sons, the elder of the two last being only six years of age. He leaves them in no want and leaves for them a guardian, whom he had trained up, in his nephew Mr Girdhardas Mangaldas Desai. The death is a terrible blow to him He has all our sympathy in his great bereavement.

All Nadiad was in mourning on the 17th. All the schools were closed and business suspended.

BABOO Sitanath Das, of the Jan Bazar Mar family, died of fever, on the morning of Monday. He had taken an interest in the affairs of this city in the early days of the present elective municipality, and was returned a Commissioner. Latterly, with the partition, by her grandsons of the estates of the late Rani Rashmani, he devoted himself entirely to the improvement of his own estate, unmindful of the claims on him of friends and the public. He was, the famous Baboo Jadoo Nath Chowdry excepted, the best educated of the grandsons of the Rani who have inherited her estates.

NATIVE Bombay, assembled at Haji Omar Jamal's Locksley Hall has decided to send a letter of condolence to Mr. Vincent, the Police Commissioner, on the death of his wife. We had expected Bombay would do more for Mrs. Vincent. It is, however, not yet too late for the Deputy Commissioner to move at least his own men to come forward with a better appreciation of the virtues of the deceased lady in the form of a permanent memorial.

GOVERNMENT HOUSE at Naini-Tal is not safe as a Governor's residence should be. Ugly cracks and fissures having appeared, the house and hill were subjected to special examination. The first report, dated the 27th March, 1895, says :

"It is impossible to admit that the present state of the Government House is satisfactory, or that from the point of view of ensuring safety it is suitable for occupation by the Head of the Local Government during a season of excessive rainfall. Without going so far as to say that there is probability of a disaster, the Committee are constrained to express their opinion that in view of the constant settling and cracking which has been seen to happen every rainy season, and of the marked increase in the width and extent of the cracks during the past season of 1894, a serious accident may, at any time after the beginning of the rainy season, be brought about by some sudden structural failure within the building itself. On this view of the question and with special reference to the point on which the opinion of the Committee was specially called for, *viz*, 'whether the limit has been reached beyond which it would be foolish to remain,' they consider that it would be advisable for the house to be vacated during the rains of 1895."

Another report was called for in April following. It is re-assuring

"The Committee are of opinion that Government House is at present structurally safe, and may continue to be occupied as a residence by His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor."

Mr. R. D. Oldham, Superintendent, Geological Survey of India, takes a despondent view of the entire situation. He considers that "the site of Government House, apart from any question of the stability of the structure, must already be regarded as unsafe during the rains." He thinks "it is not outside the bounds of possibility that with a full monsoon a slip may take place within the present year, and in any case movement is to be anticipated to an extent which would make the house undesirable if not unsafe, for its inhabitants."

IN the Dinapore punkah coolie case, the Magistrate committed Private George Howard, of the Manchester Regiment, to the Calcutta sessions, on charges of murder, and voluntarily causing grievous hurt by a dangerous weapon. He was tried by Mr. Justice Norris with a special jury. Mr. O'Kinealy, Standing Counsel, prosecuted. Messrs. C. F. Barrow and W. H. Knight defended the prisoner. After a trial of three days, the majority of the jury—eight to one—found Howard not guilty, and the Judge discharged him. The prisoner had voluntarily admitted to the Magistrate that "The punkah coolie was lying in the verandah with his head towards the gwall. I kicked him on the head with my boots and went to the theatre at 9 20. I kicked him at 9 15: there was blood on my boots. I threw them away. No one saw me do it. I believe the man died from the kick. This I believe is the whole truth. I am making this statement of my own free will. I told Private Gardner and Private Donnelly immediately afterwards." The jury were probably swayed by, the medical evidence of the native Civil Surgeon who thought that the death could not be due to a kick from a heavy boot; the wound of which the coolie died must have been produced by a heavy blunt instrument such as the club produced in court. The defending counsel Mr. Barrow tried to explain away the prisoner's brave and manly confession as too manly to shield a comrade. The counsel was not as manly. He would, in spite of his client's confession, fasten the guilt of death on the comrade Donnelly. The confession itself, he argued, was not sufficient to base a decision of guilty upon in such a serious charge. The Judge left it to the jury to decide whether the prisoner had kicked a dead man as suggested by Mr. Barrow. It was entirely for them, he said, to say whether Howard's statement was true or not. If they believed that death was caused by the kick admitted by Howard, then they had no reasonable alternative but to find him guilty. He concluded by praying to God to guide the jury in coming to a right decision. The jury, as we have said, were not unanimous. The days are gone by when no verdict could be given effect to when the jurymen disagreed. The Judge evidently agreed with the majority and passed his order accordingly.

THE Sealda Magistrate has had too much of the potato or plantain whisky. He especially sat early this morning for the last drop. He will unburthen himself on Tuesday.

THE Rai Bahadoor has not succeeded. The University has elected Mr. A. M. Bose as its representative to the Bengal Council. There was no other candidate.

REIS & RAYYET.

Saturday, June 29, 1895

BUDDHA—HIS LIFE.

THE religion of Buddha was, if not the first, at least one of the earliest of the man-worshipping and morality-preaching faiths. The Vedic singers who preceded them never claimed to be superior to, or identical with, the gods of their pantheon. Their highest ambition was only to be recognised as men of extraordinary powers. Their religion offered chiefly tangible good service, and had not much to do with either the improvement or the corruption of morality. Their success in securing the reverence of men naturally led those who followed them to attempt higher altitudes. Buddha did not, like the later prophets, claim to be an incarnation or agent of the Most High. Ideas of that kind were perhaps unknown to him. At any rate, they did not originate with him. However, he tried to attain the same goal by a different route. He in a manner denied the existence of a Supreme Bramha, and spoke of the lesser gods of the Hindu pantheon as his inferiors. According to his elaboration of the Hindu doctrine of metampsychosis, the condition of a god is the highest stage which every sentient being is capable of attaining before becoming a Buddha or Bodhisatwa. In the Buddhistic scripture we read of a certain frog that, simply listening to Buddha's voice, while reciting the Law, was born as a god in the Trayastrinsa heaven. In some of Buddha's miracles, as for instance in the one relating to his descent from heaven to Sankisa, it is stated that the gods acted as his personal attendants. It is also related that they attended his preachings and reverenced him as a teacher. His policy with regard to the lesser deities of the Hindu pantheon was in fact the same as that of the British Government of the present day towards the Indian princes, and not that of Dalhousie. He did not, like some of the later prophets, aspire to the position of "a lonesome tower" in the midst of a level plain. His religion, therefore, must be said to be a form of Hinduism, and not wholly antagonistic to it.

Though the main facts about the personal history of Buddha are well known, yet it seems worthwhile to condense them that the reader may at once form his own idea of their value and bearing. Buddha was the son of a Kshatriya Chief named Suddhodana, who ruled over a small kingdom at the foot of the Himalayas, between the rivers Rapti and Rohini. The chief town of the State was Kapilavastu which has been identified with a village named Bhuila in the Basti District, about 25 miles to the north-east of Fyzabad, and 12 miles

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The Indian Association for the Cultivation of Science
210, Bow-Bazar Street, Calcutta
(Session 1895-96.)

Lecture by Babu Ram Chandra Datta, F.C.S., on Monday, the 1st Inst., at 4 15 P. M. *Subject*: Classification of Elements; on Tuesday the 2nd Inst., at 4-15 P. M. *Subject*: Consideration of the Chemical compounds; on Friday, the 5th Inst., at 4-15 P. M. *Subject*. Physical and chemical Properties of Hydrogen.

Lecture by Dr Nilratan Sirkar, M.A., M.D., on Monday, the 1st Inst., at 6 to 8 P. M. *Subject*: Practical Zoology—Frog Zoology—Protozoa; on Friday, the 5th Inst., at 6 to 7 P. M. *Subject* Chemical Physiology—Milk

Lecture by Dr. D. N Chatterjee, B.A., M.B., C.M., on Tuesday, the 2nd Inst., at 6 to 8 P. M. *Subjects*: Histology—"Endothelium" Physiology—"Circulation."

Admission Fee, Rs. 4 for Physics, and Rs. 4 for Chemistry; Rs. 6 for both Physics and Chemistry; Rs. 4 for Physiology; Rs. 4 for General Biology; Rs. 6 for complete course of Physiology and Biology. The charge for a single lecture is 2 Annas

MAHENDRA LAL SIRCAR, M.D.,
Honorary Secretary.

June 29, 1895.

to the north-west of the town of Basti. Buddha's mother, Mahamaya died on the seventh day after his birth. Although he was taken care of by his mother's sister, Maya *alias* Gautami Mahaprajapati, who was also one of his father's wives, his domestic life was, in all probability, not a very happy one. In his early years, he received some education under a teacher named Kaucika, and it was perhaps this teacher who awakened in his young mind that craving for the study of the Hindu philosophical systems which seemed to be very strong in his mind when he left his paternal roof. He married three wives, and, according to some accounts, was blessed with a child at the age of twenty-nine years. By other accounts his wife Yasodhara gave birth to Rahula long after his departure from home. In any case, with such intellectual and physical activity as he possessed, the monotony of home life proved extremely irksome to him. Possibly, the fact of his being motherless, and his father having other wives, made him miserable. That he was not a great favourite with the family, appears pretty clearly from the fact that, after his voluntary exile, his father did nothing whatever to bring him back. If, like the late Raja Pratapa Chand of Burdwan, Buddha wanted to test the affection of his father for a motherless child, he was doomed to a sad disappointment, though, for the good name of his father, or to uphold his own prophetic pretensions, he never expressed his feelings. What the real cause of Buddha's renunciation of home was, cannot possibly be known. But there cannot be much doubt that the stories in the Buddhistic scriptures are mere myths.

According to these legends, Buddha grew up to manhood without having any idea of death, disease, or the decay caused by old age. When in his twenty-ninth year he first saw a dead body, an old man and a diseased person, he was so impressed with the miseries of human life, as to determine at once to leave his home in the search after a remedy. The stories are very dramatic no doubt, but they cannot be taken to have any element of probability, consistently with what is known to all men as to the usual course of human affairs. Even supposing that Buddha's domestic life was a happy one, and that the only motive which led him to adopt the garb of a mendicant was his philanthropic zeal for the good of mankind, it does not seem reasonable that his determination was the result of a sudden impulse. Cases of renunciation like his are not of rare occurrence among Indian princes. In our own days, Lala Babu and Rajas Protap Chand and Ram Kant have perhaps made far greater sacrifices than the son of Sudhodana. In every case of Sanyas in high life in recent times, the determination is more or less known to have been caused by domestic unhappiness, or by the undue influence of some religious teacher on the enthusiastic neophyte. It seems likely, that Buddha was influenced in the same way. At any rate, the steadiness which he evinced in the course of life that he adopted goes very far to show that his determination was not the result of a sudden impulse, but of long and careful deliberation. If he had been led by only an accidental flash of enthusiasm, his zeal would have cooled down as quickly, and he would have come back to his father within a few days. He had evidently gone through a long course of mental preparation, and the realities of a mendicant's life frightened him not.

After leaving home, Buddha repaired to Raj Griha, the metropolis of the Magadha Empire. This act does not seem to be consistent with the view that it was only the miseries of the world that had led him to leave his paternal roof. Surely, he could have no reason whatever to suppose that Raj Griha was the place where the necessary remedy was obtainable. It is more probable that, like other men of ability and ambition, he was attracted to the metropolis of the Empire in the search after adventure. According to his biographers, soothsayers had predicted that he was to be either a mighty emperor or a Buddha. That may be taken to show what the goal of his ambition originally had been. Evidently, he saw no way to be an emperor, and adopted the safer but more ambitious career, by which he managed to have himself worshipped as a god by all classes, by princes as well as by peasants.

It is said that the princely mendicant of Kapilvastu had attracted the notice of King Bimbasara at the very first entrance into Raj Griha. That is not quite impossible. It seems more probable, however, that he became known to the King either through his preceptor Ram Putra Rudraka or through Amba Pali of Vaisali who was Bimbasara's mistress, and who subsequently became one of the leading Buddhistic nuns. Ram Putra Rudraka was one of the favoured Pandits of the Court of Bimbasara, and as such Pandits, when they visit the Kings who patronise them, are generally accompanied by their leading pupils, it was not unlikely that Buddha's first introduction to Bimbasara was as a pupil of the then great philosophical teacher of Raj Griha. Whatever the origin of the acquaintance may have been, the great prophet knew that to establish a high position in the country, or in the estimation of the King, by Sanskrit scholarship alone, was a very difficult task, and quite impossible during the lifetime of his preceptor. So, after passing some years at Raj Griha as a pupil and acquiring some reputation as a scholar of great promise, he retired to an adjoining forest on the banks of the river Niranjan, and for a time gave himself up to the practice of most severe austerities.

The discipline to which he was believed to be subjecting himself, raised him considerably in the veneration of the King and his people. Asceticism, though useful at starting of a religious career, cannot always be welcome to one with secular ambition. At any rate, after six years of self mortification, the "lion" of the Sakya race discovered that penances and fasts were not the road to heaven. His reputation for superior sanctity had been then completely established, and so he emerged from his seclusion giving out that he had discovered the true remedy for the miseries of the world. The panacea found was neit' er original, nor of any use for practical purposes. His doctrines were exactly the same as those of many orthodox Hindus, namely, that our miseries are caused by desires, and that, to get rid of the former we must learn to overcome the latter. Sir Monier Williams gives Buddha the credit of having had the power of presenting old ideas in new and more attractive garb. But the great anti-Brahmanical prophet adopted the ideas of Brahmanical philosophy without any modification. Cessation of desires was the panacea prescribed by both, as if it were possible for any human being to feel happy without food, drink, &c. A spiritual teacher may be believed to have the power of saving the soul from perdition after death. But so far as the miseries of this world

are concerned, it is impossible to give either Buddha or any other prophet the credit of having given a satisfactory remedy.

However that may be, Buddha was so convinced of the value of his discovery, that he at first felt inclined to keep it to himself, without giving the benefit of it to the world. Even the gods were distressed at his determination. He was led to be more philanthropic only for the remonstrances of Brahma, the creating god of the Hindu Triad. Such tactics to heighten one's importance would, in secular spheres, hardly prove of any use even with the weakest of Indian princes. But the faith of men in saints and prophets is unbounded.

Buddha commenced preaching of the new faith at Benares. His first disciples were the five men who had been deputed by his father to attend him while studying at Raj Griha. They had waited on him also when practising austerities on the banks of the Niranjana. When he gave up asceticism, and became mindful of personal comforts, they left him and went to Benares, It is said that the cause of their leaving him was his abandonment of asceticism. The fact that they did not return to their native country but proceeded to Benares, points to the conclusion that they had been sent thither by Buddha to prepare the ground for him.

The sixth convert was a young man of Benares named Yasa. His father came next. While the neophyte was passing the night at the hermitage, his father searched for him in every part of the town. The son had left his slippers on the bank of the river Varuna, and the father was led to apprehend that he had been killed by some wild beast. When thus in a state of terrible anxiety, Buddha offered him the information he wanted on condition of his accepting the new faith, and he readily consented. Yasa himself became a Bhikshu while his father, mother and wife remained lay disciples. Fifty-four other men of Benares followed the example of Yasa, so that there were sixty Bhikshus in all at the end of the first year. Buddha deputed these, two by two, to preach the new faith in other parts of the country. He himself repaired to the vicinity of Gaya where he succeeded in converting the great Pandits of the place together with their pupils. The prophet had now a large number of followers, and was a person of such importance as to be invited by King Bimbasara to revisit Raj Griha. A large and commodious garden house called Venuvana or the Bamboo grove was given him for his residence. The King also supplied everything that Buddha and his followers required for creature comforts. Thus enabled to keep his followers well-housed and well-fed., Buddha was able to add to the number of his disciples every day. They spent nine months in preaching, and passed the three months of the rainy season in one of the monasteries that the king and the people had built for their accommodation.

Buddha passed the second year of his ministry in Raj Griha. It was then that Sudatta, a rich merchant of Sravasti, became his disciple, and invited him to the chief city of Kosala. Buddha suggested to him the building of a Vihara for his reception. Sudatta built the monastery of Jetavana. When Buddha arrived he was received with great honours, and a formal gift of the Jetavana was made to him. He passed the *was* or rainy season of the third year of his ministry in Sravasti. During his residence there king Prasunajit of Kosala was converted.

Shortly after his conversion, the king of Kosala sent a message to Suddhadana congratulating him for having such a great son as Buddha. Thereupon, the king of Kapilavastu sent several messengers to Buddha asking him to visit his parents and relatives. After avoiding compliance for a long time, Buddha at last consented on condition that he built a monastery for the holy order at Kapilavastu. Suddhadana agreed and built the vihara known as Nyagrodhavana or Banyan grove. When Buddha arrived at Kapilavastu his father and other relatives gave him a warm reception. They all embraced the faith, and a great many of them entered the monastic order. Some of these Sakya monks gave great trouble to Buddha afterwards.

One of the greatest innovations introduced by Buddha was the admission of women to the monastic order. According to the Hindu Shastras, the duties of a woman are—to be obedient to her husband in his lifetime, and to lead a chaste life after his death. From the Buddhistic histories it appears, that no teacher before Buddha had allowed women the privilege. Buddha himself had, it is said, some misgivings on the subject. It is represented that he regarded women with great distrust, and that he permitted them to become nuns for the sake of his favourite disciple Ananda who had pleaded their cause, and for meeting the wishes of his old maternal aunt and step mother, Mahaprajapati Gautami. At the Council held at Raj Griha after Buddha's death, his first *locum tenens*, Maha Kasyapa, severely censured Ananda for having women admitted to the holy order. When Mahaprajapati Gautami and her companions became nuns, Ananda's age could not have been more than five years. It is therefore difficult to see how he could be responsible for the part he is said to have played. The entreaties of Gautami Mahaprajapati, if the story be based upon truth, were certainly irresistible to Buddha. May it not be that he was led to admit women more for adding to the attractions of monastic life, than for obliging either Ananda or an aged aunt? Some of the rules laid down for the guidance of the Bhikshus lead to the same conclusion.

Buddha, like many other mendicants, was a great favourite with the softer sex. While yet engaged in meditations at Gaya, he went one day to a neighbouring village named Senika. The headman of the village had two unmarried daughters named Nanda and Nanda Bala. These ladies prepared rice pudding for Buddha and, after putting the same into his alms bowl, asked him to marry them. Their guest rejected their prayer. He visited them again when on his way from Benares to Raj Griha. On this occasion they were accepted as lay disciples. Another of his devoted female disciples was the lady of Vaisali called in the Buddhist annals "Visakha, the mother of Mrigadhara,"

The precise time when Amba Pali, the mistress of of Bimbasara, decided to follow Buddha, is not known. Most likely the acquaintance had begun when Buddha was a student at Raj Griha. At any rate, when he commenced to preach the new faith, Amba was enamoured of it; and he not only accepted the gift of a garden house made by her, but actually partook of her hospitality with all the monks accompanying him. The example thus set by the teacher was largely followed by the disciples.

After the conversion of the Sakya ladies, Buddha went to the town of Vaisali now identified

with a village called Bisarah in the vicinity of Bakhra in the Muzafferpur district. Vaisali was a sort of free city governed by its leading residents called the Lichavis. At Vaisali Buddha vanquished in argument Purna Kacyap and many other philosophical teachers. After these feats, Buddha went to the Tryastrinsa heaven, and there preached his religion to his mother and a host of gods. During his absence, his disciples were oppressed with grief. After about three months, he came down to earth again by a vaidurya (lapis lazuli) staircase, the foot of which was fixed near an Udumbar tree in the town of Sankisya, near Kanouj.

A few years before Buddha's death, there was a great schism in his camp, headed by his cousin Deva Datta. He had been made to enter the holy order by a stratagem, and was never a very sincere follower of Buddha. As Buddha had the confidence of the old King Bimbasara, Deva Datta somehow managed to make himself a favourite with Ajatasatru, the heir-apparent. Ajatasatru brought about the death of his affectionate father in a very cruel manner. Deva Datta's attempts to put an end to the life of his great cousin were frustrated by miracles. After the death of Bimbasara, the inevitable reaction came in the mind of Ajatasatru. He was sorely oppressed with remorse, and through the influence of his step brother and physician, Jivaka Kumara Bhaud, he took steps to be reconciled to Buddha. In Kosala also there was a revolution similar to that in Magadha. King Prasnajit's son, Virudhaka, was led by Ambarisha, a son of the royal chaplain, to dethrone his father, and to compel him to leave the kingdom. The Prime Minister of the State at first refused to help Virudhaka. But the ultimate success of the heir-apparent in attaining the object of his guilty ambition was mainly due to the co-operation of the Premier. After his dethronement, Prasnajit repaired to Raj Griha. But he died of hunger and thirst before Ajatasatru could do anything for his relief. The success of the revolution in Kosala was in all probability due to the support that Virudhaka received from the orthodox faction, and not to any schism among the followers of Buddha. At any rate, Virudhak, after ascending the throne of Kosala, never showed any sympathy for the new faith. On the contrary, he immediately declared war against the Sakyas of Kapilvastu, and very soon effected the complete destruction of the clan to which Buddha belonged.

After the conquest of Kapilavastu by Virudhaka, Buddha lived for sometime at Raj Griha. He had now wellnigh completed the usual span of human life. Feeling that his death must take place soon, he left Raj Griha for the Vrij country, where he intended to die. On his way he sojourned at Patali Putra for a a few days, and was there respectfully entertained by Varshakar, the Premier of Ajatasatru, who was then superintending the building of the future metropolis of Magadha.

Leaving Patali Putra, Buddha arrived at Vaisali and lived there for a few days in the garden presented to him by Amba Pali. On this occasion, the prophet partook of the hospitality of the old courtezan. From Vaisali, Buddha went to a neighbouring town called Beluva, for the rains. A famine now broke out in the country, and as it therefore became impossible for his monks to get alms readily, he advised them to tide over the season of scarcity by living with their friends. That they were left to shift for themselves was perhaps due chiefly to the withdrawal of State subsidy since the accession of Virudhaka and Ajatasatru to the thrones of Kosala and Magadha respectively. Virudhaka hated the Buddhists bitterly, and Ajatasatru, though reconciled to Buddha latterly, was not always kindly disposed towards his followers.

The event in the life of a prophet which causes the greatest strain on the tactics of a believing biographer, is his death. For an exact idea of the manner in which the Buddhistic annalists acquitted themselves in this difficult task, the reader must refer to the original works. The biographers of Buddha sometimes state the facts without any kind of colouring. But it is not always so. For instance, in many places the favourite disciple Ananda is charged with the responsibility of his master's death, because of his not having asked him to prolong his life. When at Beluva, a dire illness befell Buddha, but he thought that it would not be right to pass away while the congregation of bhikshus was scattered. So he retained hold of his body until it had accomplished its task.

Divested of legendary colouring, the plain fact was that Buddha recovered from his illness at Beluva. After the rains, he went back to Vaisali. Wishing to die at Kushinara, he left Vaisali. On his way he halted at various places. At Jalanuka, he was invited by one Kundu, a worker in metal, to partake of his hospitality. The host put some pork in Buddha's alms bowl, and that was the cause of the malady that brought about his death. His demise caused the earth to shake and thunderbolts to fall. His funeral was performed by the mallas of Kushinara, in accordance with the directions left by him and as stated in the following conversation:—

"*Ananda.* How then, Lord, must the Brahmans and householders who are believers, honour the Blessed One's remains?

Buddha. Ananda, they must treat them as those of a king of kings.

Ananda. Lord, how do they treat the remains of a king of kings?

Buddha. Ananda, the body of a king of kings is wrapped in bands of cotton, and when it has thus been wrapped it is covered with five hundred layers. After that it is put in an iron case filled with oil, and it is covered with a double cover of iron; then a funeral pile of all kinds of odoriferous woods is built, the remains are burnt and the fire is put out with milk. Then they put his bones in a golden casket and in the cross road they build a chaitya over his remains, and with baldachins, flags and streamers, perfumes, garlands, incense and sweet powders, with sounds of music, they honour, praise, venerate and revere him, and celebrate a feast in his honour. So, likewise, Ananda, must they treat the Tathagata's remains."

These directions may be taken to show what kind of ambition lurked in the heart of the great mendicant. As instances of suicide in high life are not quite unknown, there are also many cases of men in affluent circumstances renouncing home, either from domestic unhappiness, or for love of adventure, or craving for variety, or for shaking off the trammels of royalty. Sanyas from such causes deserves no more admiration or honour than a *felo de se*. The prince who can be honoured and adored as an ascetic, is he who sacrifices his personal comfort for the happiness of his subjects, and not he who abdicates his throne to sink into obscurity. A love of worldly comfort and wordly honour is inherent in our moral nature. Although a man may, for parading his piety or for any other cause, make a voluntary sacrifice of his existing resources, yet, by so doing he does not attain the state of a god or an angel. The late Lala Babu left home as a mendicant. But when

we find him in retirement acquiring properties in and near Vrindaban, he cannot possibly claim credit for indifference to wordly greatness. The case was probably the same with Buddha. He gave up, it is true, the certain prospect of succeeding to the throne of his father. But every act done and every word uttered by him show that he was actuated by a deep-rooted ambition for a far higher position

THE TREATY OF PEACE BETWEEN CHINA AND JAPAN.

The *Pekin and Tientsin Times* publishes the full text of the treaty between China and Japan, made at Shimonoseki, Japan, April 17th, 1895.---Ratifications exchanged at Chefoo, China, May 8th, 1895. The text of the document is as follows :---

His Majesty the Emperor of China and His Majesty the Emperor of Japan, desiring to restore the blessing of peace to their countries and subjects and to remove all cause for future complications, have named as their Plenipotentiaries for the purpose of concluding a Treaty of Peace, that is to say :

His Majesty the Emperor of China, Li Hung-chang, Senior Tutor to the Heir Apparent, Senior Grand Secretary of State, Minister Superintendent of Trade for the Northern Ports of China, Viceroy of the Province of Chihli and Earl of the First Rank ; and Li Ching-fong, Ex-Minister of the Diplomatic Service, of the Second Official Rank :

And his Majesty the Emperor of Japan Count Ito Hirobumi Junii, Grand Cross of the Imperial Order of Paullownia, Minister President of State, and Viscount Mutsu Munemitsu, Junii, First Class of the Imperial Order of the Sacred Treasure, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs ;

Who after having exchanged their Full Powers, which were found to be in good and proper form, have agreed to the following Articles :

Autonomy of Korea.

Article I.---China recognises definitively the full and complete independence and autonomy of Korea, and, in consequence, the payment of tribute and the performance of ceremonies and formalities by Korea to China in derogation of such indepedence and autonomy shall wholly cease for the future.

Article II.---China cedes to Japan in perpetuity and full sovereignty the following territories together with all fortifications, arsenals and public property thereon :

Cessions on the Mainland.

(a)---The southern portion of the Province of Feng-Tien within following boundaries :

The line of demarcation begins at the mouth of the river Yalv and ascends that stream to the mouth of the river Anping ; from thence the line runs to Feng Huang ; from thence to Haicheng ; from thence to Yingkow, forming a line which describes the southern portion of the territory. The places above named are included in the ceded territory. When the line reaches the river Liao at Yingkow, it follows the course of that stream to its mouth, where it terminates. The mid-channel of the river Liao shall be taken as the line of demarcation.

This cession also includes all islands appertaining or belonging to the Province of Feng-Tien situated in the eastern portion of the bay of Liaotung and in the northern part of the Yellow Sea.

(b). --The island of Formosa, together with all the islands appertaining or belonging to the said island of Formosa.

(c).---The Pescadores group, that is to say, all islands lying between the 119th and 120th degrees of longitude east of Greenwich and the 23rd and 24th degrees of north latitude.

Delimitation Commission.

Article III.---The alignments of the frontiers described in the preceding Article and shown on the annexed map shall be subject to the verification and demarcation on the spot, by a Joint Commission of Delimitation consisting of two or more Chinese and two or more Japanese Delegates to be appointed immediately after the exchange of the ratifications of this Act. In case the boundaries laid down in this Act are found to be defective at any point, either on account of topography or in consideration of good administration, it shall also be the duty of the Delimitation Commission to rectify the same.

The Delimitation Commission will enter upon its duties as soon as possible and will bring its labours to a conclusion within the period of one year after appointment.

The alignments laid down in this Act shall, however, be maintained until the rectifications of the Delimitation Commission, if any, are made, shall have received the approval of the Governments of China and Japan.

Conditions of the Indemnity.

Article VI.---China agrees to pay Japan as a war indemnity the sum of 200,000,000 Kuping Taels. The said sum to be paid in eight instalments. The first instalment of 50, 000,000 Taels to be paid within six months, and the second instalment of 50,000,000 Taels to be paid within twelve months after the exchange of the ratifications of this Act. The remaining sum to be paid in six equal annual instalments as follows : The first of such equal annual instalments to be paid within two years ; the second within three years ; the third within four years ; the fourth within five years ; the fifth within six years ; and the sixth within seven years after the exchange of the ratifications of this Act. Interest at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum shall begin to run on all unpaid portions of the said indemnity from the date the first instalment falls due.

China shall, however, have the right to pay by anticipation at any time any or all the said instalments. In case the whole amount of the said indemnity is paid within three years after the exchange of the ratifications of the present Act, all interest shall be waived, and the interest for two years and-a-half or for any less period if then already paid shall be included as a part of the principal amount of the indemnity.

Article V.---The inhabitants of the territory ceded to Japan who wish to take up their residence outside the ceded districts shall be at liberty to sell their real property and retire.

For this purpose a period of two years from the date of the exchange of the ratifications of the present Act shall be granted. At the expiration of that period those of the inhabitants who shall not have left such territories shall, at the option of Japan, be deemed to be Japanese subjects.

Each of the two Governments shall immediately upon the exchange of the ratifications of the present Act send one or more Commissioners to Formosa to effect a final transfer of that Province, and within the space of two months after the exchange of the ratifications of this Act such transfer shall be completed.

Treaties and Conventions.

Article VI.---All treaties between China and Japan having come to an end in consequence of war, China engages immediately upon the exchange of the ratifications of this Act to appoint Plenipotentiaries to conclude, with the Japanese Plenipotentiaries, a Treaty of Commerce and Navigation and a Convention to regulate Frontier Intercourse and Trade. The Treaties, Conventions, and Regulations now subsisting between China and European Powers shall serve as a basis for the said Treaty and Convention between China and Japan. From the date of the exchange of the ratifications of this Act until the said Treaty and Convention are brought into actual operation, the Japanese Government, its officials, commerce, navigation, frontier intercourse and trade, industries, ships, and subjects shall, in every respect, be accorded by China most favoured nation treatment.

Cession of Towns and Ports.

China makes in addition the following concessions, to take effect six months after the date of the present Act :

1st.---The following cities, towns, and ports, in addition to those already opened, shall be opened to the trade, residence, industries, and manufactures of Japanese subjects, under the same conditions and with the same privileges and facilities as exist at the present open cities, towns and ports of China.

1.---Shashih in the Province of Hupeh

2.---Chungking in the Province of Szechuan.

3.---Suchow in the Province of Kiang-Su.

4.---Hangchow in the Province of Chekiang.

The Japanese Government shall have the right to station Consuls at any or all of the above named places.

2nd.---Steam navigation for vessels under the Japanese flag for the conveyance of passengers and cargo shall be extended to the following places :

1st.---On the Upper Yangtsze River, from Ichang to Chungking.

2nd.---On the Woosung River and the Canal, from Shanghai to Suchow and Hangchow. The rules and regulations which now govern the navigation of the inland waters of China by foreign vessels shall, so far as applicable, be enforced in respect of the above-named routes, until new rules and regulations are conjointly agreed to.

3rd.---Japanese subjects purchasing goods or produce in the interior of China or transporting imported merchandise into the interior of China shall have the right temporarily to rent or hire warehouses for the storage of the articles so purchased or transported, without the payment of any taxes or exactions whatever.

4th.---Japanese subjects shall be free to engage in all kinds of manufacturing industries in all the open cities, towns, and ports of China, and shall be at liberty to import into China all kinds of machinery, paying only the stipulated import duties thereon.

All articles manufactured by Japanese subjects in China shall in respect of inland transit and internal taxes, duties, charges, and exactions of all kinds and also in respect of the warehousing and storage facilities in the interir of China, stand upon the same footing and enjoy the same privileges and exemptions as merchandise imported by Japanese subjects into China.

In the event additional rules and regulations are necessary in

connection with these concessions they shall be embodied in the Treaty of Commerce and Navigation provided for by this Article.

WITHDRAWAL OF TROOPS.

Article VII.---Subject to the provisions of the next succeeding Article, the evacuation of China by the armies of Japan shall be completely effected within three months after the exchange of the ratifications of the present Act.

Article VIII.---As a guarantee of the faithful performance of the stipulations of this Act, China consents to the temporary occupation by the military forces of Japan of Weihaiwei in the Province of Shantung.

Upon the payment of the first two instalments of the war indemnity herein stipulated for and the exchange of the ratifications of the Treaty of Commerce and Navigation, the said place shall be evacuated by the Japanese forces, provided the Chinese Government consents to pledge, under suitable and sufficient arrangements, the Customs Revenue of China as security for the payment of the principal and interest of the remaining instalments of said indemnity. In the event no such arrangements are concluded, such evacuation shall only take place upon the payment of the final instalment of said indemnity.

It is, however, expressly understood that no such evacuation shall take place until after the exchange of the ratifications of the Treaty of Commerce and Navigation.

Article IX.---Immediately upon the exchange of the ratification of this Act, all prisoners of war then held shall be restored and China undertakes not to ill-treat or punish prisoners of war so restored to her by Japan.

China also engages to at once release all Japanese subjects accused of being military spies or charged with any other military offences. China further engages not to punish in any manner nor to allow to be punished those Chinese subjects who have in any manner been compromised in their relations with the Japanese army during the war.

Article X.---All offensive military operations shall cease upon the exchange of the ratifications of this Act.

Article XI.---The present Act shall be ratified by their Majesties the Emperor of China and the Emperor of Japan and the ratifications shall be exchanged at Chefoo on the 4th day of the 4th month of the 21st year of Kuang Hsu corresponding to the 8th day of the 5th month of the 28th year of Meiji. (May 8th, 1895).

In witness whereof the respective Plenipotentiaries have signed the same and have annexed thereto the seal of their arms.

Done at Shimonoseki in duplicate this 23rd day of the 3rd month of the 21st year of Kuang Hsu, corresponding to the 17th day of the 4th month of the 28th year of Meiji. (April 17th, 1895.)

LI HUNG-CHANG. (L.S.)

Plenipotentiary of His Majesty the Emperor of China, Senior Tutor of the Heir Apparent, Senior Grand Secretary of State, Minister Superintendent of Trade for the Northern Ports of China, Viceroy of the Province of Chihli, and Earl of the First Rank.

LI CHING-FONG.

Plenipotentiary of His Majesty the Emperor of China, Ex-Minister of the Diplomatic Service, of the Second Official Rank.

COUNT ITO HIROBUMI. (L.S.)

Junii, Grand Cross of the Imperial Order of Paullownia, Minister President of State, Plenipotentiary of His Majesty the Emperor of Japan.

VISCOUNT MUTSU MUNEMITSU. (L.S.)

Junii, First Class of the Imperial Order of the Sacred Treasure, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, Plenipotentiary of His Majesty the Emperor of Japan.

SEPARATE ARTICLES.

I.---The Japanese Military Forces which are, under Article VIII of the Treaty of Peace signed this day, to temporarily occupy Weihaiwei, shall not exceed one Brigade and from the date of the exchange of the ratifications of the said Treaty of Peace, China shall pay annually one fourth of the amount of the expenses of such temporary occupation, that is to say, at the rate of 300,000 Kuping Taels per annum.

II.---The territory temporarily occupied at Weihaiwei shall comprise the Island of Liukung and a belt of land 5 Japanese *ri* wide along the entire coast line of the Bay of Weihaiwei.

No Chinese Troops shall be permitted to approach or occupy any places within a zone of 5 Japanese *ri* wide beyond the boundaries of the occupied territory.

III.--- The Civil Administration of the occupied territory shall remain in the hands of the Chinese Authorities. But such Authorities shall at all times be obliged to conform to the orders which the Commander of the Japanese Army of Occupation may deem it necessary to give in the interests of the health, maintenance, safety, distribution, or discipline of the troops.

All military offences committed within the occupied territory shall be subject to the jurisdiction of the Japanese Military Authorities.

The foregoing separate Articles shall have the same force, value, and effect as if they had been word for word inserted in the Treaty of Peace signed this day.

In witness whereof the respective Plenipotentiaries have signed the same and have annexed thereto the seal of their arms.

Done at Shimonoseki, in duplicate, this 23rd day of the 3rd month of the 21st year of Kuang-Hsu corresponding to the 17th day of the 4th month of the 28th year of Meiji. (April 17th, 1895).

[Signatures (4) and titles, same as in Treaty.]

CONVENTION TO PROLONG ARMISTICE.

The undersigned (here names and titles of the two Chinese Plenipotentiaries as in preamble of Treaty) Plenipotentiaries of his Majesty the Emperor of China, and (here names and titles of two Japanese Plenipotentiaries as in preamble of Treaty) Plenipotentiaries of His Majesty the Emperor of Japan, having concluded a Treaty of Peace have, in order to provide for the peaceful exchange of the ratifications of said Treaty, agreed upon and signed the following Articles :

I.---The Convention of Armistice concluded on the 5th day of the 3rd month of the 21st year of Kuang Hsu, corresponding to the 30th day of the 3rd month of 28th year of Meiji, is prolonged for the period of 21 days from this date.

II.---The Armistice which is prolonged by this Convention shall terminate, without notice on either side at midnight on the 14th day of the 4th month of the 21st year of Kuang Hsu, corresponding to the 8th day of the 5th month of the 28th day of Meiji. The rejection in the meantime, however, of the said Treaty of Peace by either High Contracting Party, shall have the effect of at once terminating this Armistice without previous notice.

In witness whereof the Plenipotentiaries of China and Japan have hereunto set their hands and affixed their seals.

Done at Shimonoseki, this 23rd day of the 3rd month of the 21st year of Kuang Hsu, corresponding to the 17th day of the 4th month of the 28th year of Meiji. (April 17th, 1895).

[Signatures (4) and titles, same as in Treaty]

HE INVESTED ONLY 7/6.

THERE is a man who has spent the part twenty-five years of his life exploring for gold and other minerals in Queensland, New South Wales, Victoria, Ta-mania, and New Zealand. He has no doubt picked up some money, yet he says that the investment of 7/6 brought him in bigger returns than any other he ever made.

Yet, hold on a minute. Don't let us jump to the conclusion that we can all get rich out of the proceeds of 7/6 till we hear further from this financier. He has a humorous way of putting a serious thing, for which we should like him all the more. Some folk have no idea that sound sense and genuine fun are twin brothers, but they are all the same.

Our friend's name is William Bromfield Peck, and he lives at Russell, New Zealand, a long way off. He says it is a lovely country and intends to stay in it the balance of his days. As he landed in Australia, from England, in 1866, he has been there long enough to know what he is talking about. He advises persons of limited means who would like to become small landholders to emigrate to New Zealand.

Still, he reminds us that in the end we must pay for what we get. "The calling of a prospector, for instance," said Mr. Peck, "is full of hard work. Besides, it entails rough living, such as salt junk, soddened damper, with tea in bucketfuls. One must have the digestive capacity of an ostrich or an anaconda to stand that diet for long. It must therefore be taken as proof of the good machinery inside of my system, when I mention that I actually stood it for nearly twenty-five years.

"My punishment was delayed, you see, but it didn't fail. At last the climax came, and I was prostrated with agonising pain in the stomach and all the other symptoms of a profound derangement of all the digestive organs. I had to knock off work and cease all exertion. I was imbued with disgust with all things mundane. *I believe that dyspepsia is responsible for a large portion of the world's suicides!*"

Mr. Peck's conjecture is exactly parallel with the fact as set forth in the official statistics of all civilised countries. No other disease so demoralises and depresses human nature. It attacks the secret strongholds of the reason and drives people insane; it stupefies the sensibilities; it turns men and women into selfish, useless, nuisances; it impels them to commit crime. All this in addition to their own desolation and suffering. Yes, Mr. Peck is quite right.

But to get back to what he says about himself. At the advice of a friend—Mr. W. Williams of this place—I began to take the far-famed Mother Seigel's Curative Syrup. What result did it have? I'll tell you: *It has transformed me from a prematurely old man into one quite generated.*

"I am a rapid eater and can't break myself of the bad habit. Hence I make it a point to keep a bottle by me always and an occasional dose when necessary to set me right.

"I can safely assert that the investment of 7/6 in Mother Seigel's Curative Syrup was the best I ever made in all my chequered career. You may depend that I prescribe this medicine to all and sundry people I come in contract with. Prior to using it I spent pounds at different times, but only got partial relief. Syrup seems *to make straight for the seat of the trouble.* I pen these lines just to show other sufferers the way out. There are any number of respectable persons here who can attest the truth of what I have written.—Respectfully (Signed) WM. BROMFIELD PECK, Russell, Bay of Islands, New Zealand, July 2nd, 1892."

We don't call for witnesses. Mr. Peck's tale is frankness and truth itself. We hold out our hand in greeting across the sea. Dyspepsia is a living death, and Mother Seigel gives new life. Millions sing that chorus. But he had better eat slower. Write again and tell us you are doing so. Friend Peck.

THE services of pensioned and discharged sepoys of the Native Army required for employment in civil capacities may be obtained on application to the Recruiting Officers in charge of the following districts :—

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6.—Class of men required (*e.g.*), Sikh, Pathan, Dogra, &c.

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A. R. S. ANDERSON, SURGEON CAPTAIN,
Offg. Superintendent.

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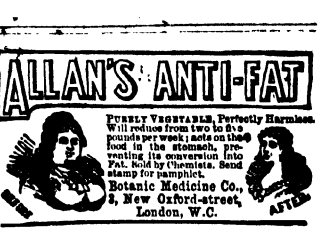

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58.	H. Luttman Johnson, Esq. C.S. ...	25
59.	Lord William Beresford, K.C.I.E., ...	25
60.	Munshi Gholam Rasool	25
61.	F. H. Skrine, Esq. C.S., ...	25
62.	The Hon'ble H. J.S.Cotton C.S., C.S.I.	20
63.	Prince Mahomed Bakhtyar Shah ...	20
64.	Babu Surendra Nath Pal Chowdry...	20
65.	„ Aukhoy Kumar Ghose ...	20
66.	Moulv. Imadd Ali	20
67.	Rai Shib Chunder Nundy Bahadar ...	20
68.	D. Panioty, Esq.	20
69.	Chowdry Mahomed Arjamand Khan	20
70.	H. E. A. Cotton, Esq., Barrister-at-law	20
71.	Moulvi Syed Ashruffuddin Ahmed, Khan Bahadur	17-8
72.	T. Inglis, Esq., C.S.	16
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74.	F. F. Handley, Esq., C.S. ...	16
75.	The Hon'ble Moulvi Sirajul Islam Khan	16
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78.	H. A. D. Phillips, Esq., C.S. ...	10
79.	Baboo Kiran Chunder Roy ...	10
80.	E. N. Baker, Esq.	10
81.	Baboo Doyal Chand Bose ...	10
82.	„ Madan Mohun Bose ...	10
83.	„ Kanai Lal Khan	10
84.	Moulvi Syud Akram Hossain ...	10
85.	Moulvi Aziz Ahmud	10
86.	Rai Kanyelal Dey Bahadoor ...	10
87.	H. Holmwood, Esq.	10
88.	Babu Hurry Mohun Chunder ...	10
89.	Baboo Chakkanlal Roy	5
90.	„ Sarodaprasad Ghose ...	5

Subscriptions will be thankfully received by the Honorary Joint Secretaries,

RAI RAJ KUMAR SARVADHICARI BAHADUR, 4, British Indian Street, Calcutta,

and A. F. M. ABDUR RAHMAN, ESQ., Barrister-at-Law, 16, Taltolla, Calcutta.

"IMPROVED UNDAUNTED" WATCH. Rs. .

Guaranteed three Years.

Strong, accurate, pretty, small, open-faced, nickel silvern, keyless, short winding, patent, "NEW STYLE IMPROVED UNDAUNTED" watch, with hand setting mechanism, secondhand, for Doctors, ornamental bold dial, for Rs. 7 V. P. P. with an extra glass, spring, pretty box and full three years' guarantee. Warranted to stand the roughest use. Runs more than 28 hours with one winding. Will last a life time. Easily repairable. Others sell at double our rates. One watch free for the purchase of 8 at a time. Mr. Jno. Dickson of Haputal Railway, from Ceylon says :—It keeps splendid time and never stopped although it sustained hard knocks and jerks. × Dr. H. Moore of Royal Artillery from Poonamallee says :—I sold it for Rs. 16. × Pte. W. Hopkins of Sussex Regt. from Dumdum says :—I have sold it for Rs. 20. × Mr. T. B. Scott of Patna Opium Department says :—The watch you sent me some seven years ago is still keeping very good time.

Jewelled Ring Re. 1-8-0. Real Silver Watch Rs. 13. Real Solid Gold Watch Rs. 24.

Pretty electro cased gold chain Re. 1-8-0. Fashionable electro cased Gold Ring set with scientific diamonds, Rubies, Emeralds, at Re. 1-8-0. Mr. G. Smith, Salt Inspector from Samkutta, says : "A German valued the diamond ring at Rs. 50 and ruby at Rs. 30." Key winding, Government stamped, solid silver hunting case, Royal watch with extras and full three years' guarantee, for Rs. 13. Pte. G. Hawkes of 2nd York Light Infantry from Purandhar says :—For the first one I got Rs. 25 ; the second one I sold to a Sergeant for Rs. 28. × Pte. H. C. Bishop of L. F. L. Regt. from Kamptee says:—A Corporal offered Rs. 30 for the very same watch. Gentlemen's open faced, keyless *real solid gold watch* Rs. 30 ; ladies' Rs. 24 ; both with extras and guaranteed for 3 years. Mind they are guaranteed to be of real solid gold. No agents kept, all goods sent only by us from Bombay per V. P. P

WESTERN INDIA TRADING CO., BOMBAY.

CATARRH.

Hay Fever, Catarrhal Deafness.

A NEW HOME TREATMENT.

Sufferers are not generally aware that these diseases are contagious, or that they are due to the presence of living parasites in the lining membrane of the nose and eustachian tubes. Microscopic research, however, has proved this to be a fact, and the result is that a simple remedy has been formulated whereby these distressing diseases are rapidly and permanently cured by a few simple applications made at home by the patient once in two weeks. A pamphlet explaining this new treatment is sent on receipt of 2½d stamp, by A. HUTTON DIXON, 43 & 45 East Bloor St. TORONTO, Canada.

Scientific American.

"IT RECOMMENDS ITSELF."

All who suffer find sure relief from

The Greatest Pain Cure Extant.

It has driven out from the system

Acute Rheumatism and Rheumatic Gout

after years of semi-helplessness and suffering : while in ASTHMA, BRONCHITIS LUMBAGO, SCIATICA, FACEACHE, SPRAINS, it is the surest and safest remedy or these complaints in their severest and most chronic form.

Its magic effect in affording instantaneous relief in

Neuralgia in the Head, Face and Limbs

Is almost too remarkable for CREDENCE

Are you subject to HEADACHES and the tortures of TOOTHACHE ? A single application will relieve you.

In Sore-throat its power has been so rapid and complete that it is universally recommended as

The Marvellous Sore Throat Cure.

Try this wonderful Medicine and let the result speak for itself.

The Oriental Balm is used by the best Physicians in the world in their practice. It has been pronounced a blessing in thousands of homes. By its intrinsic virtue, it has achieved a wide-spread popularity which no similar preparation has ever before attained.

Sold in Bottles at 1 Re. each.

Obtainable of all respectable chemist throughout the world.

Agents in Calcutta : Smith Stanistreet & Co R. Scott Thompson & Co. and Bathgate & Co. Limited.

REIS & RAYYET

(PRINCE AND PEASANT)

WEEKLY (ENGLISH) NEWSPAPER

AND

Review of Politics, Literature, and Society

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Business Communications (post paid) to be directed to "The Manager," and Literary Communications and books and pamphlets (carriage paid) to The "Editor" of "Reis & Rayyet."

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DROIT ET AVANT.

Reis and Rayyet

(PRINCE & PEASANT)

WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

VOL. XIV CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, JULY 6, 1895. WHOLE NO. 682.

CONTEMPORARY POETRY.

THE DREAM OF ARGYLE.

The unfortunate Duke of Argyle, who shared the disastrous defeat of Monmouth, under James II, was found sleeping by the officers who came to lead him to the scaffold.

EARTHLY arms no more uphold him ;
On his prison's stony floor,
Waiting death in calmest slumber,
Rests the great Mac-Cullum More !

And he dreams a dream of boyhood,
Of his dear-loved Argyleshire,
Of his bold, heroic clansmen,
Of his plumed and plaided sire.

Once again, with pulses beating,
Hears the wandering minstrel tell
How Montrose, on Inverary,
Thief-like from his mountains fell.

Now he stands, in plaid and bonnet,
In the grim and sombre hall,
And again the ruddy firelight
Sees he on the armour fall.

Down the glen, beyond the castle,
Where the Linn's white waters shine,
He, the heir of haughty Argyle,
Meets young Effie of Loch Fine—

Effie, with her snooded tresses,
And her timid eye of blue,
At the gloaming, to her trysting,
In the bracken valley true !

Now he hears a sad lamenting—
Harpers for his mother mourn,
As, with floating plume and pinion,
To the burial cairn she's borne.

Then, anon, his dreams are darker—
Sounds of battle fill his ears,
And the pibroch's mournful wailing
For his father's fall he hears.

Wild Lochaber's mountain echoes
Wail in concert for the dead,
And Loch Awe's hoarse waters murmur
For the Campbell's glory fled.

Fierce and bold, the godless tyrants
Trample the apostate land,
While her poor and faithful remnants
Wait for the Avenger's hand.

Once again at Inverary,
Years of weary exile o'er,
Armed to lead his scattered clansmen,
Stands the bold Mac-Cullum More !

Once again to battle calling,
Sound the war-pipes through the glen,
And the court-yard of Dunstaffinage
Rings with tread of armed men.

All is lost ! the godless triumph !
And the faithful ones and true,
From the scaffold and the prison,
Covenant with God anew.

On the darkness of his dreaming,
Great and sudden glory shone ;
Over bonds and death victorious,
Stands he by his Father's throne.

From the radiant host of martyrs,
Notes of joy and praise he hears,
Songs of his poor land's deliverance,
Sounding from the future years.

Lo ! he wakes ! but airs celestial
Bathe him in immortal rest ;
And he sees, with unsealed vision,
Scotland's cause with victory blest.

Shining hosts attend and guard him,
As he leaves his prison door ;
And to death, as to a triumph,
Walks the great Mac-Cullum More !

E. H. W.

WEEKLYANA.

PARIS will celebrate the centenary of the discovery of lithography by an exhibition of the art. The show will be held under Government patronage and open on the 15th August.

***

PAPER has been put to many uses—noble and ignoble. In this cheap age, it plays many parts, and is constantly receiving attention from the ingenious. The latest achievements are paper gloves and stockings The latter have been known for sometime. They are now much improved, being not thin, rotten things, but quite tough. You can have them for three-pence a pair.

***

THE Ordnance Surv., Map of England is near completion. For the last twenty years, they have been spending on it £200,000 a year. The latest maps show every hedge, ditch, building and even every isolated tree.

Subscribers in the country are requested to remit by postal money orders, if possible, as the safest and most convenient medium, particularly as it ensures acknowledgment through the Department. No other receipt will be given, any other being unnecessary and likely to cause confusion.

BEWARE of licking your envelope! An American died at Cleveland, Ohio, of blood-poisoning, caused by a slight cut on his tongue while licking the flap of an envelope. This is a warning also against many unclean acts of ordinary daily life.

***

AT the annual meeting of the Newspaper Society held at the Salisbury Hotel, on the 8th May, there was a long discussion on the loss to the English Post Office from the reduced Press rates of telegraphy. The following resolution was ultimately arrived at *nem con.*

"That there is no good ground for allocating the alleged loss on the telegraph service to Press messages, and that any attempt to raise the charges for these messages would involve an act of injustice and a breach of faith between the Government and the Press which should be resisted in every way by the newspaper Press of the United Kingdom."

***

A HUNGARIAN compositor, named Kutnez, out of employ, applied to the head of the Atheneum Printing Works at Buda Pesth for assistance. While receiving it, he fired two shots at him from a revolver, wounded him mortally, and then blew out his own brains No explanation is given of the mystery

***

PROFESSOR de Goeje is engaged on a new edition of Wright's Arabic Grammar. The Part left unfinished by the late Prof. William Wright will be completed by Prof Sachau of Berlin.

***

IN the Supreme Court of England, Jonas, a solicitor, sued Abrahams and others, proprietors and publishers of the *Morning Advertiser*, for damages for libel. The solicitor being bankrupt, a report of the proceedings in the Bankruptcy Court appeared in the *Advertiser*. Closely following the report in that case, but without any distinguishing head line, there were published the proceedings in bankruptcy of a beershop keeper. The two reports thus seemed one. The propinquity of the publican was too much for the solicitor. He raged and threatened. The *Advertiser* made a correction and offered further explanation if required. The man of law was still inconsolable. He insisted that the confusion had injured him in his profession, and brought his action The jury after the address of the defendants' counsel, stopped the case and returned a verdict for the defendants. Another paper which had copied the *Advertiser* was also proceeded against. The verdict in that case was also the same. We hope Jonas is now satisfied that he has established to the world that he is neither a publican nor a sinner.

If such derangement of epitaphs were actionable, many of the Indian journals would suffer every week and day.

***

THE *Ceylon Patriot* while correcting an error falls into another :—

"Under the heading 'A distinguished Jaffna Tamil' in the portion allotted to the news of the week in our last issue, Mr. C. W. Thamodarampillai, B. A., B. L., is said to have been raised to the rank of *Rai Bahadur* on the last Queen's Birthday The title conferred on him by the Government of India is not *Rai Bahadur*, but *Rao Bahadur*, a higher distinction."

We know of no distinction, except the verbal, between the two titles. The Rai Bahadoor of Bengal is the Rao Bahadoor of Bombay and Madras The developing Burke of India, in his Peerage, brackets the two distinctions We shall indeed be obliged for further light.

***

Capital corrects "a misapprehension entertained by a contemporary regarding a recent suit, in which the Administrator-General was concerned" "The suit," it says, "was decided when Mr. Collis-Sandes was acting as Administrator-General, and it was entirely due to him that the appeal to the Privy Council was preferred, and the judgment of the Chief Justice maintained against those of his colleagues." In native society, the credit is given to the attorney, who was so sure of the incorrectness of the judgment of the High Court that he had offered to pay the expenses of the appeal to England and thereby, in a manner, forced the Administrator General to take the step.

***

THE Ceylon Retrenchment Commission reports on Exchange Compensation Allowance in these words :—

"The Commission further recommends that all persons who join the Public Service in Ceylon after due consideration of this report, say from and after 1st July, 1895, should not be paid any allowance for the depreciation of the rupee if superior officers, or the 10 per cent. increase if in the Clerical and Subordinate branches of the Public Service.

The Commission, while fully acknowledging the hardship inflicted on the older officers by the fall in the value of silver measured in gold, which has taken place since they first joined the Public Service, sees no sufficient reason to contemplate any serious further fall in the future.

The Commission admits that at the present value of silver future officers in the Public Service will receive less remuneration than their predecessors in office, but the Commission observes that *pari passu* with the decrease in value of silver the number of duly qualified candidates for employment has augmented, and that for the ordinary demands of the Public Service (excluding specialists) the qualifications of candidates who joined not long before the recent grant of compensation were rather above than below the average hitherto obtained.

The same observation applies to the Clerical and Subordinate Service. The Commission is convinced that if this recommendation be carried out there will be no difficulty in recruiting suitable officers for the Public Service.

As regards specialists, no rule need be laid down beforehand, because the Government has always to pay whatever may be the current market price for the services of a specialist whenever one is engaged

The anomaly of paying different rates to senior and junior officers for similar work has been suffered in previous instances, and has caused far less practical difficulty than the payment of the compensation recently granted entails now."

They order this matter better in—the Island.

***

WE read in the *Effective Advertiser* :—

"A tricycle has been brought out in Paris as a novel advertising agent. It prints any set word or design in bold characters on the street flags or pavement. A skilful rider mounts the machine and in an incredibly short space of time 'advertises' the city from one end to the other The back wheels of the tricycle have wide rims, which are shod with a rubber tyre that carries in relief the advertisement to be made known. Above the wheels are placed two ink rollers, which are fed automatically with ink through tubes running to a reservoir on the top of the machine. The movement of the pedals actuates a small blower which sends air into a tube placed in front of each of the motive wheels. By this contrivance any dirt or dust which might impair the legibility of the imprint is blown to one side, and a clean surface is secured. A special arrangement enables the design on either wheel to be printed in different colours.'

We are afraid the walls of houses are no longer available. The streets must supply the omission. But how long do the impressions made by the running wheels last or are visible?

Another advertising novelty is to be seen in Geneva. The *Pall Mall Gazette* writes :—

"A new and objectionable form of advertising has appeared at Geneva. It is called '*Paffichage sublacustre*,' and consists of advertisements which can be read several feet under water, the subject being painted in yellow letters on a black ground, and so placed that the words are magnified. It is at the Pont du Mont Blanc, in the crystal-clear waters of the Rhone, that this deformity is first to appear. Land and water will soon be equally disfigured everywhere. In the country the sky remains, but the New Titan, who is the billposter, will manage somehow to scale the heavens."

Even the church-yard is not free :—

"In San Francisco, an enterprising citizen has already chosen his burial plot, and set up a handsome marble monument containing just the initials of his deceased wife and the announcement that the rest of the space is to let for advertisements."

In India, we have no such enterprise. Even advertising in proper place is little appreciated. But there is developing a trade in which one advertises himself under a false European name, usually a firm as a guarantee of respectability and security of honourable dealing, offering to supply goods at a cheap rate and sending you none when the value is received. The advertiser is not the resident of the place whence the goods are offered. He may be living at Calcutta while his offices are supposed to be at Delhi, Allahabad, Lucknow or Benares. The Calcutta police has detected about fifty such bogus firms. But it does not appear that any steps have been taken to suppress or punish the fraud.

***

DURING the calendar year 1896 not more than 39,000 chests of Bengal Opium will be offered for sale, and not more than 3,250 chests in each month of the year. Of the quantity to be offered each month, not more than 1,625 chests will be Benares Opium, and not more than the same number Patna. No reduction will be made in the quantities without three months' previous notice.

***

ANILINE dye (dry) is now assessable to duty *ad valorem* under No 12 of Schedule IV (Import Tariff). Henceforth, the tariff valuation will be Re 1-8 per lb

DEAFNESS. An essay describing a really genuine Cure for Deafness, Singing in Ears, &c., no matter how severe or long-standing, will be sent post free.—Artificial Ear-drums and similar appliances entirely superseded. Address THOMAS KEMPE, VICTORIA CHAMBERS, 19, SUTHAMPTON BUILDINGS, HOLBORN, LONDON.

DURING June, 37,796 persons visited the Indian Museum. The natives of India numbered 28,939 male and 8,343 female. The European visitors were 407 male and 107 female. The Zoo is not so popular. But then there is an admission fee In the Museum special days and hours have been set apart for zenana ladies.

* *

THE Hudson River between New York and Jersey City is to be bridged. The Secretary of War has approved the plan and authorized the commencement of the work. The cost is set down at 25,000,000 dols and the time required is 10 years. The bridge will span the river without support, being suspended from twelve cables. It is intended to carry six railway tracks. Between the pierhead lines on either shore there will be a clear opening of 3,110 feet, and the bridge at the centre will be 150 feet above high-water mark. The main towers will rise to a height of 587 feet.

NOTES & LEADERETTES,

OUR OWN NEWS,

&

THE WEEK'S TELEGRAMS IN BRIEF, WITH OCCASIONAL COMMENTS.

THE Cabinet of Lord Salisbury's third Ministry is comprised of :—

Lord Salisbury, Premier and Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs ;
Lord Halsbury, Lord High Chancellor ;
The Duke of Devonshire, Lord President of the Council ;
Viscount Cross, Lord Privy Seal ;
Sir Michael Hicks Beach, Chancellor of the Exchequer ;
Sir Mathew White Ridley, Secretary of State for the Home Department ;
Mr. Chamberlain, Secretary of State for the Colonies ;
Lord Lansdowne, Secretary of State for War ;
Lord George Hamilton, Secretary of State for India ;
Lord Balfour of Burleigh, Chief Secretary for Scotland ;
Mr. Goschen, First Lord of the Admiralty ;
Mr. Balfour, First Lord of the Treasury and Leader of the House of Commons ;
Earl Cadogan, Lord Lieutenant of Ireland ;
Lord Ashbourne, Lord Chancellor of Ireland ,
Mr. C. T. Ritchie, President of the Board of Trade ;
Sir Henry James, Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster ;
Mr. Henry Chaplin, President of the Local Government Board ;
The Hon. George Curzon Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs ;
Mr. Hanbury, Financial Secretary to the Treasury ;
Mr. Gerald Balfour, Chief Secretary for Ireland ;
The Duke of Norfolk, Post Master General ;
Sir John Gorst, Vice-President of the Committee of the Council ;
Mr. William Macartney, Secretary to the Admiralty ;
Mr. Austen Chamberlain, Civil Lord of the Admiralty ;
Mr. Jesse Collings, Under-Secretary for the Home Department ;
Lord Selborne, Under-Secretary for the Colonies;
The Hon. William Brodrick, Under-Secretary of State for War ;
Mr. Thomas Russell, Secretary to the Local Government Board ;
The Earl of Latham, Lord Chamberlain ;
Lord Pembroke, Lord Steward ;
Earl Onslow, Under-Secretary of State for India.

IN the House of Commons, on July 2, Mr. Balfour, First Lord of the Treasury, in reply to a question, repeated the hope expressed by the Premier in the other House that the closing business of the Sessions would be completed in order to allow of Parliament being dissolved on Monday. In reply to a further question, he stated that the reserves of ammunition will be increased immediately. Votes on account of public services during the period occupied by the general elections were adopted without opposition. The Naval Works Bill passed its third reading.

SIR Michael Hicks-Beach, in a speech to his constituents at West Bristol on his reelection, said that the policy of the present Government was directly opposed to that of its predecessors, and would be mainly composed of constructive and social reforms. He also declared that the Exchequer would not be unheedful of the demands of the War Office.

THE Queen, in taking farewell of Lord Rosebery on the final resignation of his office, conferred upon him the Order of the Thistle. The occasion has also been marked with other honours .—

Lords Houghton and Carrington have been created Earls.

Sir Henry Loch, the Right Hon Herbert Gardner, late President of the Board of Agriculture, Mr. Sydney Stern, member for Stowmarket, and Mr. James Williamson, member for Lancaster, have been created Barons.

Messrs. James Blyth, William Agnew, Captain H. Naylor Leyland, member for Colchester, and Mr. Bell, Lord Provost of Glasgow, have been created Baronets.

Messrs. Arthur Arnold, Edward Gourley, member for Sunderland, Clarence Smith, member for Hull, Cowasjee Jehangir Readymoney, and Mr. Low, Provost of Dundee, have been Knighted.

Sir Ralph Thompson, late Permanent Under-Secretary at the War Office, and Sir Bernhard Samuelson, member for Banbury, have been appointed members of the Privy Council.

Mr. Fowler, late Secretary of State for India, has been created Knight Grand Commander of the Star of India.

Mr. Campbell Bannerman, late Secretary of State for War, has been created Knight Grand Cross of the Bath.

Mr. R. Giffen, Board of Trade, Colonel Majendie, and Mr. Alfred Milner have been created Knights Commander of the Bath.

Mr. De Bunsen, British Consul-General for Siam, Mr. Arthur Hardinge, British Diplomatic Agent at Zanzibar, and Captain Lugard have been created Companions of the Bath.

Colonel H. E. Colville, the Imperial Commissioner for Uganda, has been created Knight Commander of the Order of Saint Michael and Saint George.

PRINCE Nasrulla Khan dined with the Prince of Wales at Marlboro' House on June 29. On July 1, he, under the guardance of Sir Henry Fowler, visited the distinguished strangers' gallery of the House of Commons. The next day he again visited the Queen, proceeding to Windsor in full royal state. At the audience he presented to Her Majesty the gifts sent by the Amir. Owing to the visit of the Shahzada to London, a Baronetcy has been conferred on the Lord Mayor The recent marriage in the royal family witnessed no honour for the Sheriff of Calcutta who had richly deserved it. The omission is still unrectified.

A NEW Chinese loan of one million sterling, bearing interest at the rate of six per cent. per annum, issued in London, at the minimum price of 106, was covered ten times over This loan is entirely distinct from that which is being negotiated at Paris under the guarantee of Russia, the terms whereof have been signed at Pekin.

THE death is announced of Professor Huxley, the celebrated writer on natural science.

THE Sultan has appointed Chakir Pasha Inspector of the Turkish Provinces in Asia. The nomination is regarded as a mere evasion of the demands of the Powers.

THE nephew of King Menelek and other Envoys comprising the Abyssinian Embassy to the Emperor Nicholas, have been received with marked honours in Russia.

BULGARIA has demanded an explanation from the Porte concerning the orders to the Turkish Commander at Adrianople to act on his own initiative on the Bulgarian frontier, and has also intimated to the Turkish Government that she will be obliged to adopt military measures on her own side. The Porte's reply is conciliatory

IN the House of Lords, on July 1, Lord Ripon's Bill to enable the Colonies to deal with questions regarding the alteration of boundaries and annexations which now require a special act of Parliament, was read a second time.

THE *Times*, commenting on the divergence of views of experts on the question of Indian expenditure and the proportion that should be borne by the Home Exchequer, says that the British nation is con-

vinced of two things; first, that the ultimate responsibility for the defence of the Indian Empire rests with Great Britain; secondly, that the responsibility for the solvency of India rests ultimately, if less directly, with Great Britain.

THE French Attacked the Hova position at Beritzoka on the route to Antananarivo and captured two of the enemy's camps, together with a large quantity of stores. The Hovas were routed with heavy loss, but the casualties among the French troops were trifling.

SIR Henry Fowler had been to Windsor Castle on Thursday when he was invested with the insignia of a Knight Grand Commander of the Star of India. At the same time, the Order of the Crown of India was conferred upon Lady Fowler.

MR. W. C. Bonnerjee, of the Calcutta Bar, now practising in the Privy Council, has been selected as the Radical candidate for Barrow-in-Furness at the forthcoming General Election. We wish him every success.

A SPORTING paper particularly made itself merry because the Viceroy did not ride at a particular parade. Lord Elgin, if he be no cricketeer like Lord Harris, is for the sport nonetheless. He has joined the Indian movement for a testimonial to Dr. Grace.

THE Bengal High Court has its Mahomedan Judge. The N.-W. Provinces' had its. Bombay has now been allowed one. Syed Ameer Ali is reputed to be an author. Syed Mahmood began brilliantly and ended before his time as ingloriously. He has sunk from that high eminence into writing *madayi-tarikh*. The first had always set his heart upon the appointment and worked for it. The second had won the place by his talents. Mr. Budruddin Tyebji has been sought out. This is the second time that the post was offered him. He succeeds the barrister Judge Mr. Justice Bayley just retired. Mr. Tyebji richly deserves the elevation.

THE *Moslem Chronicle and the Muhammadan Observer* of last week concludes a leader on the late Moulvi Cheragh Ali, of Hyderabad, with the words:—

"The Hon'ble Mr. Syed Mahmud, a personal friend of Moulvi Cherag Ali has given expression to his sad feeling, on the lamented death of his friend, in the following *misra*, the numerical value in oriental notation of which gives the date of his demise (1895)."

After a rule (in the printer's language) to mark the close of the article, there runs a line in Persian—"Haif cheraghi-ali az dunia nihan shûd," meaning, Alas! Ali's Lamp has disappeared from the world.

We will not say anything as to the literary conduct of the paper which allows the rule to precede the closing line, or the taste that dubbs a man Honourable when he has ceased to be so. We will only enquire—has the Persian line been properly characterized? Syed Mahmood has, indeed, caused disappointment to many. But has he so far forgotten himself as not to know what *misra* is? Or, is it the prig of the press of Imdad Ali's Lane who quotes him at second-hand through the *Tahzibul Akhlaq* of Aligarh, that must answer for the blunder? He poses as a scholar and belongs to a family of cultivating authors. His immediate progenitor has been made famous by an irregular combination of words attributed to him,—a combination that has been of much use to Anglo-Indian writers while charging the people of India with want of independence and the desire to follow the beck of officials. The present descendant seems destined for immortality as well by extinguishing distinction between poetry and prose.

IN the House of Commons, on June 11, Sir William Wedderburn enquired of the Secretary of State for India what extensions had been made of her Majestey's Indian possessions subsequent to the passing of the Act for the better government of India (1858); in what years were such extensions made; and what was the name and area of such extension. In reply, Mr. (since Sir Henry) Fowler named Upper Burma with its area of about 83,500 square miles added in 1886. The next year the frontier districts of Pishin and Sibi with their dependencies, which had been under British administration under the Treaty of Gundamuk since 1879, were incorporated with British India. Besides these, a considerable number of acquisition of territory including numerous exhanges with native Princes, had taken place in various ways since 1858, the area in most cases being comparatively small.

Replying to Mr. Keay, he could only say that in their dealings with Native States, as in other matters, the Government of India use their discretion whether or not the approval of the Secretary of State in Council before taking action. Further, that it was not for the public interest that the papers relating to the Bhurtpur succession should be laid on the table.

Lord Elgin is exceptionally fotunate. His immediate predecessors were not even privileged to publish reports of Commissions held in India without orders from Home. With greater and improved facilities of communication between India and England and greater interest taken in England in Indian affairs, the Viceroy of India has been reduced to an Agent for carrying out orders. He must even take orders for words to be used on particular occasions to recommend a policy to his legislative Council or in disparagement of it. We hinted at the time at the difficulty the present Viceroy had with the Home Government regarding the import duties on cotton.

The Secretary of State would not lay on the table the papers relating to Bhurtpore, because, as he said, they were of no public interest. The Fowler definition of the phrase must be very narrow indeed. In the same way, other Native Princes may be pursued out of their dominions, without the public of India or of England knowing anything about the cause. Maharaja Ram Sing may not be deserving of sympathy. He was discarded by his father. Maharaja Jaswant Sing, shortly before his death, had gone the length of addressing letters to the British Government to exclude him from succession. Yet Ram Sing was installed Maharaja within a fortnight of the late Chief's death. Those who were instrumental in bringing him to power have, like himself, either been sent away or deprived of power—for good or evil. The brave Martelli had recommended Ram Sing for the guddi. When on it, the Colonel discovered cause to report him. Colonel Trevor, the then Agent to the Governor General, came to Bhurtpur to enquire. Within a month, there was an entire change. The political quartered on Bhurtpur was transferred. Colonel Fraser who had replaced Colonel Martelli, has now gone on leave of six months, making over charge to Colonel Loch. Pandit Bishen Lal, the hero of the drama that is being enacted at Bhurtpur, has been divested of all source of influence. His relations and men have all ceased to hold any office. In March, the Maharaja removed himself to Muttra where he still is. He had wanted to go back to Bhurtpur. He was told that Mussooree would suit him better. The Maharaja shews no predilection for that place. There is boulversement in Bhurtpore. A new Dewan has been appointed from the Berar Commission.

The *Pioneer* had deported Maharaja Ram Sing to Meerut. The Calcutta papers have brought him down to Uttarpara. One of them is precise:—

"Rao Krishna Deo Saran Singh, the lately deposed Maharajah of Bhurtpore, with his only son, aged about ten years, is at present stying at the Uttarparah Public Libray as guests of Babu Rash Behari Mukerji. The Maharajah is a very quiet, unostentatious and kind-hearted gentleman. He is also an orthodox Hindu, and devotes the greater portion of his time to religious matters."

The Uttarpara Library is classic ground, for Dr. Hunter had lived there and Michael Datta, the Bengali poet. It has yet to be the fit residence of a Prince. Although not permitted to visit his dominions, Maharaja Ram Sing has not ceased to be the ruler of Bhurtpur. Nor is it to be supposed that the British Government which has the supervision of the State will tolerate the hospitality of an ordinary Bengal Zemindar for a ruling chief. The fact is, the guest at the Library is not Bhurtpur himself, but a descendant of the exiled branch of the royal family. He is the grandson of Durjan Sal who had usurped the State during the rule of his younger cousin Maharaja Bulwant Sing, grandfather of the present Maharaja. Durjan, after the war which he had occasioned, was deported to Allahabad. He was afterwards allowed to live at Benares, where his family draw from the Bhurtpur Durbar, through the Commissioner of Benares as *ex-officio* Agent to the Governor-General, a monthly subsistance allowance of Rs. 300.

DEAFNESS COMPLETELY CURED! Any person suffering from Deafness, Noises in the Head, &c., may learn of a new, simple treatment, which is proving very successful in completely curing cases of all kinds. Full particulars, including many unsolicited testimonials and newspaper press notices, will be sent post free on application. The system is, without doubt, the most successful ever brought before the public. Address, Aural Specialist, Albany Buildings, 39, Victoria Street, Westminster, London, S. W.

THE LAW AND THE BUNNIAH.

In June last the Government of India sent a circular letter to the Local Governments asking for their opinions on the subject of the usury laws. The Government of the N.-W. Provinces accordingly invited opinions from the Allahabad High Court and from Subordinate Judicial Officers. Among the mass of correspondence which this request elicited is an important Minute by the Chief Justice.

MINUTE BY SIR JOHN EDGE.

I have read the letter No. 685 VII-654B of 1894, dated Naini Tal, the 9th July 1894, from the Secretary to Government, North-Western Provinces and Oudh, to the Registrar and the papers therein referred to.

2. I am decidedly of opinion that some alteration of the law in the directions suggested is necessary.

3. In order to avoid misconception I think it right to point out with reference to paragraph 36 of the Resolution by the Government of India, Home Department, No. 17 Judicial, 1497-1502, dated the 20th November 1891, that the statement "the High Courts have held that Act XXVIII of 1855, which repealed the usury laws, did not affect the Hindu laws as to the rate of interest" is open to question, if by that statement it is intended to be understood that since the passing of act No. XXVIII of 1855 all the High Courts have applied the Hindu law as to the rate of interest therein referred to; which I understand to be that interest exceeding in amount the principal may not be demanded at any one time. I believe that that rule of Hindu law is applied by the High Court at Bombay in cases in which the parties to the contract are Hindus, whilst the High Court at Madras has held that the rule of Hindu law is not binding. I also believe that the Supreme Court at Calcutta for some time applied this rule of Hindu law, but that the High Court of Calcutta has not applied that rule on the appellate side. In eight years experience in this High Court I cannot call to my recollection any case in which that rule of Hindu law has been held to apply in these Provinces, although several of the Judges during that period in this High Court, myself amongst the number, have wished that we could apply that rule. I believe that this High Court has never applied that rule of Hindu law.

4. With reference to the same paragraph 36 of the Resolution of the Government of India, Home Department, I think it right also to state that this High Court considers that when a rate of interest is stated in a bond signed by a defendant, a Judge is, by reason of section 2 of Act No. XXVIII of 1855, bound to decree interest in accordance with the contract unless the contract is proved to have been an unconscionable one, or to be tainted with fraud, or to have been made by the defendant in ignorance of the true nature of the transaction, or in cases to which that doctrine applies, to have been obtained by undue influence. That also is, I believe, the view of the law on that subject which now obtains in the High Court, Madras.

5. Cases have frequently come before me in which I strongly desired to give relief against high contractual interest, feeling that the contretual rate of interest was exorbitant and crushing, but in which I was unable to do otherwise than make a decree according to the contract owing to the fact that nothing had been *proved* which would entitle a Court to interfere with the contract made by the parties to it. In many such cases nothing had even been pleaded which if proved would entitle a Court to grant relief against the contract.

As I understand the law, a Judge is not, from the mere fact that the rate of interest contracted to be paid seems to him excessively high and crushing, to infer, without any proof of the circumstances under which the contract was made, that the rate of interest stipulated for in the contract was exorbitant in the sense of unreasonable, or that it would be equitable to grant relief.

Interest at the rate of 20 per cent. might be unreasonably high in a case in which the borrower gave good security for the loan, or his personal credit was good: whilst in another case in which the borrower had no security to give or could only give security which a prudent man would consider to be doubtful, hazardous or practically worthless, 40, 50, 60 or even 70 per cent. might not be an unreasonable rate of interest which a perfectly honest lender might stipulate for, having regard to the risk he was running of losing not only interest but principal.

Again a borrower might be under an urgent necessity, with which the lender was in no way concerned, for obtaining an immediate loan, and it might be in fact inconvenient for the lender to advance the money at the time, and consequently it might be reasonable for the lender to refuge to lend his money at an ordinary rate of interest.

What I desire to point out is that neither a Judge nor any one else could say that the agreed rate of interest was unconscionable, unless he had before him the circumstances under which the loan was applied for and made.

In my opinion it frequently happens that a borrower does not understand the true nature of the contract which he makes as to interest or thinks only of to-day and is heedless of the future.

6. As I understand the law it is for the person who seeks to be relieved from the performance of his contract to make out a case for relief. I see however no good reason why the Legislature should not enact that in every case in which the rate of interest appears to a Judge to be high, or in which it is pleaded that the full consideration for the contract was not given, that the borrower did not understand the contract or was misled as to its nature or effect, the onus of proving that the contract was reasonable, that the consideration passed and that the transaction was legitimate, should be on the lender.

7. I suggest that the Legislature should enact that when on a loan it is agreed that compound interest or any interest exceeding 12 per centum per annum shall be paid or allowed in account it shall be incumbent on the lender to prove that the contract was fair and reasonable, and that when the interest does not exceed 12 per centum per annum the Judge may, if he thinks fit, throw upon the lender the onus of proving that the contract was fair and reasonable, and that in all cases, whether the suit be for a simple money decree for the recovery of a debt or a suit under Chapter IV of Act No. IV of 1882, the Judge of first instance and every Court, including a Court of second appeal before which the suit comes in appeal, may require the lender to prove otherwise than by a written contract the amount of the consideration actually given, and that the contract was, under the circumstances or the case as they were known at the date of the loan, fair and reasonable, and that no Judge in any such case shall be bound to decree a greater sum for principal or for interest than is shown to be reasonable.

All the Judges of the Court, except Mr. Justice Aikman, concur entirely in the Chief Justice's Minute, and adopted it as an expression of their own views. Mr. Aikman, while agreeing generally with the Chief Justice, recorded a Minute of his own.

The Indian Association for the Cultivation of Science.

210, Bow-Bazar Street, Calcutta.

(Session 1895-96.)

The new Session of the Association commenced from 1st July. Lectures during the Session will be delivered in Physics, Chemistry, and Biology.

The Association has been affiliated to the Calcutta University up to the First Examination in Arts. This step has been taken purely for the benefit of the students, who are to appear at that examination. The attendance at its lectures will now count, and students will have no excuse to neglect to avail themselves of these lectures which, from their thoroughly experimental character, will enable them not only to understand their text-books, but to acquire such a mastery over methods and principles as to prepare them for making independent investigations.

It is needless to say that though the Institution for the present has been affiliated up to the F. A. standard only, the lectures will be such as to be fully useful to those who are preparing for the B. A. examinations.

An examination, written and practical, in the subjects of Physics, Chemistry and Biology lectured upon at the Association, will be held after the session is over. Anyone, who has attended the lectures of the Association, will be admitted to this examination.

The Jotindra Chandra book prize of Rs 20, founded by the Hon'ble Justice Gooroo Dass Banerjea, a silver medal by the Chaitanya Library, and a silver medal by Babu Sarat Kumar Ghosal, will be awarded to candidates who will stand first, second, and third respectively at the examinations in Physics and Chemistry, provided that the number of marks obtained by each of them does not fall short of one-third of the full marks.

Dr. Nilratan Sircar has very generously offered to give a microscope to the candidate who passes first in the examinations in Biology. The Association will give a silver medal to the candidate who is second in these examinations.

Lecture by Babu Ram Chandra Datta, F.C.S, on Monday, the 8th Inst., at 4 15 P. M. *Subject:* Preparation and properties of Oxygen and Ozone; on Wednesday, the 10th Inst., at 4 15 P. M. *Subject:* Chemical composition of water and its Properties; on Friday, the 12th Inst., at 4-15 P. M. *Subject*: Hydroxyl. Nitrogen and Atmospheric air.

Lecture by Dr. Nilratan Sirkar, M A, M.D., on Monday, the 8th Inst., at 6 to 8 P. M. *Subjects*: Practical Zoology—Frog. Zoology—Protozoa; on Friday, the 12th Inst., at 6 to 7 P. M. *Subject*: Chemical Physiology—Milk.

Lecture by Dr. D. N. Chatterjee, B A., M B, C. M., on Tuesday, the 9th Inst., at 6 to 8 P. M *Suojects*: Histology—Endothelium. Physiology—Respiration.

Lecture by Babu Rajendra Nath Chatterjee, M.A., on Wednesday, the 10th Inst., at 7 P.M. *Subject:* Matter, its constitution and general properties

Admission Fee, Rs. 4 for Physics, and Rs. 4 for Chemistry; Rs. 6 for both Physics and Chemistry; Rs. 4 for Physiology; Rs. 4 for General Biology; Rs. 6 for complete course of Physiology and Biology. The charge for a single lecture is 2 Annas.

MAHENDRA LAL SIRCAR, M.D.,
Honorary Secretary.

MR. JUSTICE AIKMAN'S MINUTE.

I am strongly of opinion that some legislation is required to obviate the admitted evils which arise from the present state of things.

Owing to the improvidence and ignorance of the bulk of the inhabitants, the country was not ripe for the well meant but mistaken legislation of 1855, and will not be so, I fear, for many years to come."

That legislation has already resulted in great political evils, and the sooner it is amended the better. The existence of a large body of once prosperous landowners and tenants who, if they have not lost their lands, are reduced to the position of bond-slaves to the bunniah, is a standing danger.

But the utility of the suggestions now made to improve this state of things appears to me questionable. All money-lenders are not village Shylocks. Many, I would say most of them, fulfil a very useful function in the existing state of society, and I much fear that if the proposals of the Government of India in their present form be adopted, a wide door will be opened to fraud on the part of borrowers, much harassing civil litigation will result, and credit will be shaken.

The suggested reforms of the law seem to me too vague. More definite rules for the guidance of the Courts are required. My idea is that it ought to be enacted that when the amount of interest sought to be recovered exceeds the principal, or when the rate of interest exceeds, say 24 per cent. per annum for simple bonds, and 12 per cent. for mortgage bonds, a Court *may* go behind the strict terms of the bond, and enquire whether there was any undue influence in the case. I do not think any amendment of the Evidence Act is required. As matters at present stand it is open to a defendant, although he may have in the bond or before a registration officer admitted receipt of consideration passed.

I would invite attention to the observations of Mr. Nicholls Judge of Moradabad. Mr. Nicholls is not raising any theoretical objections, but is speaking from his experience as Manager of the extensive Awa Estates, and from what has come before me as a Civil Judge, I know he is right. It is *not* only the risk of losing his money altogether which makes a creditor ask high interest. The difficulty and expense of recovering it, even when he has got a decree, are factors which must enter into his calculations. It was too much the custom formerly for Civil Courts to look on execution business as a mere *paretgon*. I am glad that this spirit is now passing away, and Subordinate Courts are now devoting more time and care to the work of the execution department. But it is unquestionable that the charges at every stage of the execution proceedings are much too high when the amount to be recovered is small, and thus come to be either prohibitive, or are the last straw which breaks the back of the judgment-debtor. I am very strongly of opinion that the charges for issue of notices, proclamations, &c., require to be more graduated than they are at present. This would not require legislation, but I am firmly persuaded that if it were carried out it would have the ultimate effect of reducing the rate of interest.

I would invite attention to one other matter, though it is only indirectly connected with the usury question, and that is the advisability of placing greater restrictions on the transfer of land from the land-owning and land-cultivating classes. It is generally admitted that the provisions of sections 320 to 327 inclusive of the Code of Civil Procedure have not been found in practise at all adequate to effect the object with which they were enacted.

Last year this Court in a Full Bench decision to which I was a party held that a tenant with rights of occupancy is at liberty to mortgage his holding. This finding was inevitable as the law at present stands, but I would gladly see the law altered so as to forbid mortgages of such holdings, and place restrictions on their subletting.

The Registrar of the High Court, in forwarding these Minutes to Government, says :—

THE HIGH COURT'S OPINIONS.

It is the opinion of the whole Court that interest in excess of principal should never be decreed (the *damdopat* rule), and that in applying that rule the principal from time to time advanced, whether under one bond or under bonds merged in a subsequent bond, should be ascertained separately from the interest, no matter whether or not it was agreed between the parties that interest should be treated as principal.

The Court believes that the custom of *damdopat* is known, and would commend itself, to the people ; it would be no hardship to apply it to Hindus whose old custom it was ; it would be no hardship to apply it to Muhammadans to whose religion it is contrary to lend money at interest.

The Judges are unanimously of opinion that where the interest is compound or exceeds 12 per centum per annum, either the law should make it incumbent on the lender to prove that the transaction was fair and reasonable, or the discretion of requiring such proof should be vested in the Judge, whether the borrower has raised the question or not.

THE N. W. P. GOVERNMENT'S SUMMING UP.

In a letter to the Government of India, the Secretary to Government, North-West Provinces and Oudh, writes :—

As regards the question of legislation for the purpose of checking the exaction of exorbitant interests, His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor and Chief Commissioner cordially endorses the opinion of the majority of officers consulted, that section 2 of Act XXVIII of 1855 requires modification in order to compel Courts to exercise discretion in awarding interest at the rate stipulated for in a contract which is such as to raise a reasonable suspicion of coercion, undue influence, fraud, or misrepresentation. He is not, however, prepared to agree with the majority of the Judges of the High Court in holding that in cases where interest is compound or exceeds 12 per cent, per annum, the Courts should further be called upon to presume, or at least to enquire *suo motu* into the existence of coercion, &c. It might lead to grave injustice to enforce a rule depending on a rate of interest which, though ordinarily suitable enough for mortgage bonds, might be inapplicable in the case of borrowers who have no security to offer and often very indifferent credit.

The proposed amendments to the Contract Act to provide that the taking an undue advantage of a debtor shall render an agreement voidable, appear desirable ; and, as a consequence of the foregoing proposals, it would be necessary to add to the Evidence Act provisions empowering Courts to go behind a bond when its terms are exorbitant and unconscionable.

Several officers, relying on the old rule of *damdopat*, suggest that Courts, besides being required to exercise discretion in the matter of awarding interest, should also be precluded from awarding more than twice the amount of the original debt. This question is raised in the Bill to regulate the award of interest in suits for simple money debts and mortgage debts, on which the opinion of this Government is desired in letter No. 388, dated 13th March 1895, from the Legislative Department, and will be dealt with on receipt of the replies of the officers consulted. I am to suggest, for the consideration of His Excellency the Governor General in Council, that it would be convenient to dispose of this point at the same time as those dealt with in the foregoing paragraphs of this letter.

SEVEN POUNDS IN ONE WEEK.

NOT every man who is thin would thank you for fattening him. He doesn't want to be fat and for very good reasons Unnecessary fat is a load to carry about ; it interferes with a man's power to work, shortens his wind, and dulls his wits.

Yet, on the other hand, a certain amount of flesh is needed for health and comfort. For example . A man five feet high should weight about 120lbs. ; and man five feet six inches, 145lbs. ; a man six feet, 178lbs. It is a regular ascending scale. The insurance companies allow a variation of 7 per cent. above or below it, and beyond those limits charge an extra premium. One shouldn't be much over or under his proper weight if he wants to be sound and hearty—and we all do want that.

Now we will tell you how Mr. Thomas Crosby, being under weight, gained seven pounds in a week He had lost 1½ stone, which is too much off for a man who was never fleshier than he naturally ought to be.

It was this way. He was right enough up to May, 1891. At that time he began to feel ill and out of sorts. He had a nasty taste in his mouth—like rotten eggs, he says—and a thick, slimy stuff came on his gums and teeth. His appetite failed, and what he did eat was, as you might say, under compulsion ; and right afterwards he would have great pain in his stomach and chest. Plainly, something was amiss with him in that region He was often dizzy, and cold chills ran over him as though he were threatened with fever. Of course we should expect a man who is handled in this way to lose strength Mr. Crosby lost strength. In fact, he got so weak and nervous that he shook all over, and his hands trembled as if a current of electricity were running through him.

To use his own words : "I rapidly lost flesh, was 1½ stone lighter, and could hardly walk about. Once my parents thought I was dying, and sent in haste for the doctor. I saw two doctors in Epworth and one at Haxey, but they were not able to help me. Our vicar, Rev. Mr Overton, recommended me to the Lincoln Infirmary, where I attended for eight weeks as an outdoor patient, without benefit.

"Soon afterwards Mr. Sharp, a chemist, at Epworth, spoke to me of the virtues of a medicine known as Mother Seigel's Curative Syrup. Being interested in what he said, I left off trying other things and began taking this Syrup. In a few days I felt better, and presently I gained seven pounds in a week. At that rate I soon got back to my work, and have had the best of health ever since. I tell these facts to everybody, and am perfectly willing they should be published. Yours truly (Signed), TOM CROSBY, Ferry Road, Epworth, *via* Doncaster, December 23rd, 1892."

After reading Mr. Crosby's story we scarcely need to ask why he lost flesh. The minute he stopped eating and digesting his usual allowance of food he began to fall away. Trees, they say, grow as much from the air by means of their leaves, as they do from the soil. But men don't. They've got to be built up through their stomachs. Indigestion and dyspepsia (Mr. Crosby's complaint) stops this process and poisons those who have it, besides. That accounts for all the painful and dangerous symptoms our friend speaks of. The doctors do what they can, but, unluckily, they don't possess the medicine that goes to the bottom of this disease and cures it. The remedy is Mother Seigel's Curative Syrup, and nothing else, so far as we know. It restores digestion, and digestion covers the bones with fat enough for health and good looks.

THE services of pensioned and discharged sepoys of the Native Army required for employment in civil capacities may be obtained on application to the Recruiting Officers in charge of the following districts :—

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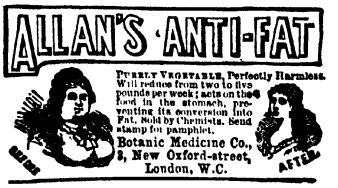

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DROIT ET AVANT

Reis and Rayyet

(PRINCE & PEASANT)

WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

VOL. XIV. CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, JULY 13, 1895. WHOLE NO. 688.

CONTEMPORARY POETRY.

COLUMBUS.

A Print after a Picture by Parmeggiano.

BY B. SIMMONS.

I.

RISE, Victor, from the festive board
Flush'd with triumphal wine,
And, lifting high thy beaming sword,
Fired by the flattering harper's chord,
Who hymns thee half divine,
Vow at the glutted shrine of Fate
That dark-red brand to consecrate!
Long, dread, and doubtful was the fray
That gives the stars thy name to-day.
But all is over; round thee now
Fame shouts, spoil pours, and captives bow,
No stormier joy can earth impart,
Than thrills in lightning through thy heart.

II.

Gay Lover, with the soft guitar,
Hie to the olive-woods afar,
And to thy friend, the listening brook,
Alone reveal that raptured look,
The maid so long in secret loved—
A parent's angry will removed—
This morning saw betrothed thine,
That sire the pledge, consenting, blest,
Life bright as motes in golden wine,
Is dancing in thy breast

III.

Statesman astute, the final hour
Arrives of long-contested power;
Each crafty wile thine ends to aid,
Party and principle betray'd;
The subtle speech, the plan profound,
Pursued for years, success has crown'd;
To-night the vote upon whose tongue,
The nicely-poised division hung,
Was thine—beneath that placid brow
What feelings throb exulting now!
Thy rival falls;—on grandeur's base
Go shake the nations in his place!

IV.

Fame, Love, Ambition! what are ye,
With all your wasting passions' war,
To the great strife that, like a sea,
O'erswept his soul tumultuously,
Whose face gleams on me like a star—
A star that gleams through murky clouds—
As here, hurt by struggling crowds
A spell-[bound] I loiterer I stand,
Before a print-shop in the Strand?
What are your eager hopes and fears
Whose minutes wither men like years—
Your schemes defeated or fulfill'd,
To the emotions dread that thrill'd
His frame on that October night,
When, watching by the lonely mast,
He saw on shore the moving light,
And felt, though darkness veil'd the sight,
The long-sought World was his at last?*

V.

How Fancy's boldest glances fail
Contemplating each hurrying mood
Of thought that to that aspect pale
Sent up the heart's o'erboiling flood
Through that vast vigil, while his eyes
Watch'd till the slow reluctant skies
Should kindle, and the vision dread,
Of all his livelong years be read!
In youth, his faith-led spirit doom'd
Still to be baffled and betray'd,
His manhood's vigorous noon consumed
Ere power bestowed its niggard aid;
That morn of summer, dawning grey,†
When from Huelva's humble bay,
He full of hope, before the gale
Turn'd on the hopeless world his sail,
And steer'd for seas untrack'd, unknown,
And westward still sail'd on—sail'd on—
Sail'd on till Ocean seem'd to be

* October 11, 1492.—"As the evening darkened, Columbus took his station on the top of the castle or cabin, on the high poop of his vessel. However he might carry a cheerful and confident countenance during the day, it was to him a time of the most painful anxiety, and now, when he was wrapped from observation by the shades of night, he maintained an intense and unremitting watch, ranging his eye along the dusky horizon in search of the most vague indications of land. Suddenly, about ten o'clock, *he thought he beheld a light glimmering at a distance.* Fearing that his eager hopes might deceive him, he called to Pedro Gutierrez, gentleman of the king's bedchamber, and inquired whether he saw a light in that direction; the latter replied in the affirmative. Columbus, yet doubtful whether it might not be some delusion of the fancy, called Roderigo Sanchez of Segovia, and made the same inquiry. By the time the latter had ascended the roundhouse, the light had disappeared. They saw it once or twice afterwards in sudden and passing gleams, as if it were a torch in the bark of a fisherman rising and sinking with the waves, or in the hand of some person on shore, borne up and down as he walked from house to house. So transient and uncertain were these gleams, that few attached any importance to them; Columbus, however, considered them as certain signs of land, and, moreover, that the land was inhabited."—Irvin's *Columbus*, vol. i.

† "It was on Friday, the 3d of August, 1492, early in the morning, that Columbus set sail on his first voyage of discovery. He departed from the bar of Saltes, a small island in front of the town of Huelva, steering in a south-westerly direction," &c.—*Irving*. He was about fifty-seven years old the year of the discovery.

Subscribers in the country are requested to remit by postal money orders, if possible, as the safest and most convenient medium, particularly as it ensures acknowledgment through the Department. No other receipt will be given, any other being unnecessary and likely to cause confusion.

All shoreless as Eternity,
Till, from its long-loved star estranged,
At last the constant needle changed, *
And fierce amid his murmuring crew
Prone terror into treason grew ;
While on his tortured spirit rose,
More dire than portents, toils, or foes,
The awaiting world's loud jeers and scorn
Yell'd o'er his profitless return ;
No—none through that dark watch may trace
The feelings wild beneath whose swell,
As heaves the bark the billows' race,
His being rose and fell !
Yet over doubt, and pride, and pain,
O'er all that flash'd through breast and brain,
As with those grand, immortal eyes
He stood—his heart on fire to know
When morning next illumed the skies,
What wonders in its light should glow—
O'er all one thought must, in that hour,
Have sway'd supreme—Power, conscious Power—
The lofty sense that truths conceived,
And born of his own starry mind,
And foster'd into might, achieved
A new creation for mankind !
And when from off that ocean calm
The Tropic's dusky curtain clear'd,
And those green shores and banks of balm
And rosy-tinted hills appear'd
Silent and bright as Eden, ere
Earth's breezes shook one blossom there—
Against that hour's proud tumult weigh'd,
Love, Fame, Ambition, how ye fade !

IV.

Thou Luther of the darken'd Deep !
Nor less intrepid, too, than he
Whose courage broke earth's bigot sleep
Whilst thine unbarr'd the sea—
Like his, 't was thy predestined fate
Against your grim benighted age,
With all its fiends of Fear and Hate,
War, single-handed war, to wage,
And live a conqueror, too, like him,
Till Times's expiring lights grow dim !
O, hero of my boyish heart !
Ere from thy pictured looks I part,
My mind's maturer reverence now
In thoughts of thankfulness would bow
To the Omniscient Will that sent
Thee forth, its chosen instrument,
To teach us hope, when sin and care,
And the vile soilings that degrade
Our dust, would bid us most despair—
Hope, from each varied deed display'd
Along thy bold and wondrous story,
That shows how far one steadfast mind,
Serene in suffering as in glory,
May go to defy our kind.

—*Blackwood.*

* "On the 13th September, in the evening, being about two hundred leagues from the island of Ferro, he, for the first time, noticed the variation of the needle, a phenomenon which had never before been remarked. Struck with the circumstance, he observed it attentively for three days, and found that the variation increased as he advanced. It soon attracted the attention of the pilots, and filled them with consternation. It seemed as if the very laws of nature were changing as they advanced and that they were entering another world subject to unknown influences."—*Irving.*

DEAFNESS COMPLETELY CURED ! Any person suffering from Deafness, Noises in the Head, &c., may learn of a new, simple treatment, which is proving very successful in completely curing cases of all kinds. Full particulars, including many unsolicited testimonials and newspaper press notices, will be sent post free on application. The system is, without doubt, the most successful ever brought before the public. Address, Aural Specialist, Albany Buildings, 39, Victoria Street, Westminster, London, S. W.

WEEKLYANA.

MIGHTIER than dynamite, as it should be according to its name, is "Jovelte," the new explosive prepared at Washington, U. S. It explodes under water, does not kindle with a flame, and is comparatively cheap. It has, however, yet to be fully tested.

***

AT Christie's, on June 15, ninety-one pictures from the collection of James Price fetched 87,000*l.* The highest price obtained was 10,000 guineas for Gainsborough's portrait of Lady Mulgrave. It had been bought, in 1882, for 1,070 guineas. Six Turners brought in 22,450 guineas. W. Muller's "Carnarvon Castle" was purchased for 2,300 guineas.

***

THE tablet in the precincts of the Gottingen University in honour of Prince Bismarck bears the simple inscription—"To the Great Chancellor.—Wilhelm II." This is an extraordinary departure from the pompous ways of the young Emperor. But it shews that he is not all froth.

***

THE Dominion Parliament has voted a grant of 25,000 dols. to Lady Thompson, widow of the late Canadian Premier.

***

SIR Charles Elliott, accompanied by Colonel McArthur and Captain J. W. Currie, left for Chandbally on Wednesday. He will be back on Monday next. Lady Elliott leaves Darjeeling for Calcutta on that day.

***

THE last of the dacoit leaders in the Maingyan District of Burma, who defied the British in 1886, Bo Cho, has been secured. He with his two sons are in custody.

***

ANTICIPATING the Long Vacation of the Allahabad High Court, Sir John Edge has left for England. Mr. Justice Knox officiates as Chief Justice.

***

THE Governor-General in Council has been pleased—

(1) to remit the duty, payable on any policy of insurance against railway accidents valid for a single journey only when issued to a passenger travelling by the intermediate or the third class on any railway ; and

(2) to reduce to one anna the duty payable on any such policy when issued to a passenger travelling by the first or the second class on any railway.

Are we to suppose that Government proposes to reduce railway accidents by encouraging life insurance ? For the last four years, the number of accidents were seven for every 100,000 train-miles run. During 1894, the number of persons killed were 633 and injured 929.

***

UNDER the Cotton Duties Act (XVII of 1894), the Governor-General in Council has prohibited the payment of drawback on the exportation of yarn or cotton fabrics to—

(1) the ports in the States of Travancore and Cochin,
(2) the ports of His Highness the Gaekwar of Baroda,
(3) the ports of the Thakur of Bhavnagar,
(4) the ports of the Nawab of Cambay,
(5) the ports of the Nawab of Habsan,
(6) the Portuguese-Indian port of Diu, and
(7) the ports specified below in Kutch and Kathiawar :

In Kutch—Jakhau, Koteshwar, Lakhpit, Mundra, Rohar, Tuna and Mandvi ;

In Kathiawar—Beri, Bherai, Chorvad, Jafarabad, Jinjura, Joria, Kathivadar, Madhavpur, Mahuva, Mangrol, Miani, Navabander (under Junagadh), Navabander (under Nawanagar), Navibander, Pimpavao, Porbander, Satya, Sundrai, Sutrapara, Talaja, Veraval, and Wavanya.

***

WHILE the Madras city itself is without lights, the carriages on the Madras Railway are to be illuminated with gas. The plant for the purpose has arrived.

A RUMOUR being circulated that cocoanut milk is more acceptable to the gods than the bovine—that is according to religion—cocoanuts have an extensive sale at Bangalore. The "sell" cannot last long. But the difficulty has always existed of procuring the kind of milk and its preparation the *ghi* required for the worship of the gods.

* * *

DURING the absence, on deputation to Madras and on privilege leave, of Brigade-Surgeon-Lieutenant-Colonel G. King, Surgeon-Captain D. Prain, Curator of the Herbarium, Royal Botanic Garden, Calcutta, acts in addition to his own duties, as Superintendent of the Royal Botanic Garden, Calcutta, and of Lloyd Botanic Garden, Darjeeling, and as Government Quinologist, Mr. J. A. Gammie superintending during the said period his own work of Deputy Superintendent of Government Cinchona Plantation.

* * *

THREE of the native Assistant Magistrates and Collectors, namely, Mr. Satyendranath Palit, Godda, Sonthal Parganas; Mr. Birendra Chandra Sen, Kushtia, Nadia; and Mr. Kiran Chandra De, Ranaghat, Nadia, have been vested with the powers of a Magistrate of the first class.

* * *

MR. Croft of this city has been fined Rs. 800 for unlicensed manufacture and possession of weak whisky which does not sell. Mr. David, Manager of the Great Eastern Hotel, Rangoon, has been fined Rs. 600, for selling Perfection Whisky which was not Perfection, if not potato.

* * *

DR Gariansug, a Russian physician, considers the juice of raw cranberries, given freely, pure or diluted, with equal parts of water, an excellent means of relieving thirst and vomiting in Asiatic cholera.

* * *

THE Aryya Mission Institution, Calcutta, has been affiliated to the Calcutta University in Arts up to the F. A. standard. That shews an advance. Do the boys shew any improvement in manners?

NOTES & LEADERETTES,

OUR OWN NEWS,

&

THE WEEK'S TELEGRAMS IN BRIEF, WITH OCCASIONAL COMMENTS.

PARLIAMENT was dissolved on Monday. It will meet, after the elections, on the 12th of August. Prior to the prorogation, Lord Salisbury delivered a manifesto defending the House of Lords and declaring that the policy of Government would be to do the utmost to mitigate the misery of the millions. Agriculture, he said, had suffered especially, but the reforms in taxation, facilities of transport, and the creation of small holdings would do much to relieve it. Moreover, the poor law required revision. The election seems to be a tame affair. Meetings are, indeed, being held daily in different parts of the country, and speeches made by candidates, but there is an absence of any excitement. One hundred and thirty-eight seats will be unopposed. The candidates will be divided simply into Unionists and Liberals, the more precise sub-division being reserved for the finish. Lord George Hamilton, Secretary of State for India, has been returned for the Ealing Division of Middlesex, unopposed. The following Unionist Members have been re-elected in the same way, namely, Mr. Goschen for St. George's, Hanover Square; Mr. Myers for Winchester; Mr. Lyttleton for Warwick; Mr. Tardell for Paddington; Mr. Barry for Windsor; Mr. Hoare for Hampstead and Hanson and Mr. Gibbs for the City of London. Lord Charles Beresford is severely censured for persisting in contesting a seat for Central Birmingham against the Unionist candidate. The Liberal programme was sketched out by Lord Rosebery, who, speaking at a Liberal meeting in the Albert Hall, advocated continuity in the foreign affairs of the nation, and said that his policy was to withdraw the forces from Chitral as soon as the step could be taken with safety. With regard to the Armenian question he would insist upon due guarantees against the recurrence of the horrors committed by the Turks at Sassoon. In conclusion he reaffirmed the principle of Home Rule, but said that the question of the abolition of the House of Lords was at the root of all others. Mr. Chamberlain, speaking at Lambeth in support of Mr. H. M. Stanley, the explorer, sketched the Government programe. He stated that it was their intention to assist friendly societies, to make provision for the aged poor, and to control the immigration of destitute aliens, and also the importation of foreign prison-made goods, and to compensate injured workmen.

THE opening of the naval manœuvres has been postponed for one week to enable the crews to vote at the General Election.

A FURIOUS scene occurred at the Irish Convention held at Omagh between Mr. Tim Healy and Mr. John Dillon, the former reading a letter showing that the National Federation is unable to continue to subsidise the Home Rule campaign in Tyrone and Derry, which the English Liberals will henceforth undertake. Mr. Dillon retorted that Mr. Healy was a traitor for reading a private letter, and he repelled the charge of selling Ireland.

LORD Knutsford and Mr. Henry Matthews have been created viscounts, while Sir Henry James has been raised to the peerage. Sir Richard Webster has been appointed Attorney-General.

THE Italian Squadron, consisting of ten vessels commanded by the Duke of Genoa arrived at Portsmouth on July 9. The Duke and his officers were received by Admiral Earl Clanwilliam on board the Victory. The town was gaily decorated in honour of the occasion, and the Italians met with an extremely hearty reception.

NASRULLA KHAN, accompanied by Mr. Martin, starts for Paris on the 22nd, and will embark at Constantinople for India on the 20th September. He will hold a farewell reception at Dorchester House on the 18th instant, at which the Prince of Wales will be present.

THE *Novoe Vremya* says the visit of King Menelik's Envoys to St. Petersburg may influence Russian Oriental policy more than Nasrulla Khan's visit to London may affect the destinies of Asia.

THE latest advices from Abyssinia state that King Menelik's attitude towards the Italians is becoming more markedly hostile, and that he has imprisoned Signor Capucci, an Italian Engineer, for communicating with General Baratieri.

IT is understood that the Russo-Chinese loan will be secured by the Chinese customs revenue, with priority of any future loans, Russia undertaking to pay the French financiers who are finding the money, should China fail to do so. The Loan will not be redeemable for thirty-six years. The *Journal de St. Petersburg*, discussing the loan, disavows any wish for political advantage, ascribing it to Russia's desire to maintain friendly relations with her great neighbour. This assurance of the Russian journal is immediately followed by the English *Standard*, with a telegram from Berlin positively re-affirming that the extension of the Siberian railway through Manchuria has been definitely agreed upon. The exclusiveness of China is attacked from other quarters as well. A French commercial mission under official auspices starts in August next for Shanghai to thoroughly study the trade of China, and travel through China to Yunnan, where it will meet another mission from Tonquin.

THE railway between Pretoria and Delagoa Bay was opened on Tuesday with great ceremony, Sir Hercules Robinson, Governor of the Cape, and Sir J. J. Hely Hutchinson, Governor and Commander-in-Chief of Natal, and several Portuguese officers being present.

A fire broke out on the ship Cressington at Hamburg, and the cargo of jute has been much damaged. The ship, however, has only been slightly damaged.

ON July 9, two trains laden with pilgrims collided near Quebec. Twenty-five people were killed, and thirty injured.

LORD Harris, the late Governor of Bombay, has been appointed one of the Lords-in-waiting to Her Majesty the Queen.

A BULGARIAN deputation has arrived at St Petersburg to lay a wreath on the tomb of the late Czar. M. Lobanoff received the deputation most cordially, and said that the restoration of regular relations with Russia rested with the Bulgarian people.

THERE was a renewal of the attack by the Opposition in the Italian Chamber, on Signor Crispi After an eloquent speech from him in defence of his orders, the Chamber passed a vote of confidence, and approved the Decrees by a large majority

THE cotton crop in eleven cotton States of America is reported to be 82-5/16 per cent.

CAPTAIN Younghusband delivered a lecture on Chitral at the United Service Institute. Lord Roberts also addressed the meeting. He said that there was no necessity for annexing Chitral. It would, he said, suffice to make a road with ferries over the Swat and Panjkora rivers, and when completed the route should be guarded by local levies. Such a plan would, he said, involve no exorbitant expenditure. But will it preserve the integrity of Chitral?

LORD Elgin's programme of next tour includes the Native States of Gwalior, Bhopal, Indore, Hyderabad and Mysore. It is a big sweeping programme for so many first class States to be visited in one down journey. He leaves Simla on the 24th October. From Mysore the Viceroy proceeds to Madras, whence he comes by sea to Calcutta in the middle of December.

A *Gazette of India* Extraordinary, dated Simla, Tuesday, July 9, announces the appointment of the Right Honourable Henry Hartley Fowler, P.C., M.P., lately Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for India, as an Extra Knight Grand Commander of the Most Exalted Order of the Star of India.

MAHARAJA Sir Lachmessur Singh Bahadur of Darbhanga will continue in the Bengal Legislative Council. He will now sit not as an elected but a nominated member. He succeeds Maharaja Sir Ravaneshwar Prasad Singh Bahadur of Gidhaur as representative of the great landlords of the Province.

THE high prospects of petroleum in Assam have not been realized. The boring operations of the Assam Railways and Trading Company at Makum have been stopped since September last Altogether nine bore holes were put down to various depths but without satisfactory results. After an outlay of Rs. 5,57,533, only seven wells, or about half the number bored, at the Digboi field are yielding any oil. In the year ending 31st March 1895, the crude oil extracted was 156,717 gallons against 62,876 of the previous year. The oil is being used by the Company for lubricating and sold to the public for the same purpose and for painting and preservation of timber and wood, &c

ON January 19, we commented rather sharply on the circular of the Inspector General of Registration, Bengal, directing that peons do not form part of an office establishment and requiring the rural sub-registrars, who are paid by commissions on the registrations effected and allowances on the documents received by them, to strictly account for the money drawn on the fair account. It is now our pleasing duty to announce that the objectionable circular has been withdrawn The present Inspector-General thinks "that rural sub-registrars are neither losers nor gainers in the long run under the arrangement which gives them a fixed scale of allowance. Circular No. 42 of 1894 is accordingly cancelled." The withdrawing circular is numbered 17 of 1895 If the preceding orders of Khan Bahadur Delawar Hossein Ahmed are as sympathetic, or the subsequent ones leave the ill-paid rural sub-registrars undisturbed, he will have earned their thanks before he lays down his office. For the present order, they are grateful to him for no positive good done but for the evil averted If he can improve their status, he will earn the thanks of the general community.

DEAFNESS. An essay describing a really genuine Cure for Deafness, Singing in Ears, &c., no matter how severe or long-standing, will be sent post free.—Artificial Ear-drums and similar appliances entirely superseded. Address THOMAS KEMPE, VICTORIA CHAMBERS, 19, SOUTHAMPTON BUILDINGS, HOLBORN, LONDON.

SIR Charles Elliott has given an impetus to the Mahomedan Hostel in Calcutta which had been hanging fire or rather awaiting subscriptions. Without waiting till the last, he has given orders for its construction and sanctioned the Government grant of Rs. 50,000. We have received a communication on the subject. We have much pleasure in presenting the enlightened Mahomedan feeling on the subject of boarding houses for boys.

Sir Charles Elliott has conferred a boon upon the Mahomedan community by sanctioning the Hostel in the vicinity of the Calcutta Medressa. Such a boarding house was a desideratum. Calcutta has many educational advantages. They are not all unmixed good. As in other large cities, the dangers are many that surround a young student without proper supervision and control. There was a time when many well-to-do Mahomedan gentlemen in and around Calcutta, according to the prevailing custom, used to maintain a number of poor students in their houses. The heads of such families would exercise some kind of supervision also and act the part of guardians. Old times are changed; old views of charity and liberality have taken a new direction. At the present day it will be difficult to find half a dozen houses where poor students have free lodging and mess (Jagir). Not to speak of strangers, few can afford to keep their relations in their houses and support them, or educate their children. The great misfortune of an Indian student is the home influence. Considering all the circumstances, it cannot be said to be healthy. It is evident that in most houses there is want of discipline and proper supervision of health and habits of the boys. Then again the guardians are so much occupied with their professsion or business that they have no time to attend to their wards. Female influence is worse than anything. The ladies love their children indiscriminately and thus spoil the boys by granting them every license and showing them every indulgence. Grown up boys are also petted like young children. In well-regulated English homes, the model of discipline and good training, it is thought necessary to remove the boys at a certain age.

Why the result of our university education is so bad and disappointing? Why our students cannot turn out as brilliantly as educated Europeans? Why they look like so many discharged patients after their college career? Why are they wanting in strength of character, as of body? I attribute all these shortcomings to the absence of discipline of good boarding schools and colleges as we find in Europe. The sooner we can change the present system, the better for all concerned.

No amount of lecturing will remove the defects of character which cause much anxiety.

A student, who after passing his F. A. or B. A. examination does not know how to eat and dress and is a picture of ill-health and of all distempers arising from it, what can be expected of him? He would have been a different man and useful if he had the supervision of teachers who could set him personal examples and exercise on him lasting healthy influence.

The Mahomedan community ought to be indebted to the Lieutenant-Governor for the good done by him for their young men. They should liberally response to his call and make up the balance still wanting. They must realise the importance and advantages of hostels for their student population who require them most.

What a student can learn in years in his house he learns it in months in a boarding school with competent principals and superintendents.

The conditions under which poor students are compelled to live at Patna, Calcutta and Dacca are fraught with danger to their physical and moral welfare. There are many who suffer seriously from the baneful influence of their questionable surroundings. It is too late when their guardians are informed of their having been plunged into troubles. These students are not properly housed and they get bad food, bad water, bad light, and bad association, the combined effect of which very often proves their ruin.

FOLLOWING the Mahomedan Literary Society which early enough saw the benefit of the Hostel, the National Mahomedan Society has voted a sum towards its construction. Their labours must not end there. The individual members must come forward each with his mite. The estimated cost of land and building is about a lakh of rupees. The subscriptions come up to only Rs. 19,000.

THE *Calcutta Gazette*, of July 10, announces that the services of Mr. C A. W. Fordyce, Deputy-Magistrate and Deputy-Collector, have been dispensed with by Government, with effect from the 15th March 1895 We publish, in another column, the Resolution on the subject. Charles Appery Wyatt Fordyce was admitted into service on the 27th January 1887. He must have been considered then eligible both on account of character and capabilities It took eight long years to discover that he was not deserving of the choice of Government. But for the Dacca pleaders he would have gone on piling up crime from the vantage ground of his position in the service. All honour to them! Sir Charles Elliott too deserves commendation for the strong action he has taken. He gave Mr. Fordyce sufficient opportunity to clear himself, and finding him fail, the charges against him having been reported true, the Governor has not been slow to purge the subordinate executive service of the Fordyce foulness.

IN connection with the knighthood conferred on Mr. J. Cowasjee Jehangir, the *Times of India* says that "It is understood, however, that in conferring a knighthood upon Mr. Jehangir regard has been had to the munificent benefactions bestowed upon Bombay by the late Sir Cowasjee Jehangir, who gave nearly fifteen lakhs for various public objects, and who shortly before his death, it was reported at the time, was recommended by the Government of Bombay for an even more distinguished mark of the favour of the Crown." The present honour, it also says, "has followed quickly upon the opening of the Ready-money wing of the Imperial Institute, which has been erected at a cost of two lakhs of rupees, the gift of Mr. Jehangir."

The present Sir Cowasjee Jehangir Readymoney is the adopted son and successor of the late Sir Cowasjee Jehangir Readymoney. In 1878, when noticing his death, elsewhere in another capacity, we wrote :—

'A great man, (as our readers are already aware) "the venerable philanthropist," "the Peabody of the East," Sir Cowasji Jehangir Readymoney, Knight, C. S. I., has passed away. In the following *Gazette Extraordinary* the Bombay Government thus regret his loss —

"It is with deep regret that the Governor in Council has received intelligence of the death at an early hour this morning of Sir Cowasji Jehangir Readymoney, Kt., C. S. I.

"Remembering the munificent charities and benefactions with which Sir Cowasji's name has been connected during the past quarter of a century, the Government consider that this public recognition of his worth is pre-eminently called for.

"By his death the Government has lost one of its most loyal subjects, India a generous benefactor, and the Town and Island of Bombay one of its most upright and independent citizens."

Sir Cowasji's greatness lay in his benefactions for the relief of human suffering and human distress without distinction of creed or colour. His public charities amounted to eighteen lakhs and his private charities to four lakhs of Rupees. How he valued public charities the following characteristic letter will shew :—

"Bombay, 10th September, 1870.

To SIR H B. E. Frere, G. C S. I.,

late Governor of Bombay and now Member of India Council, London.

My dear Sir.—I have pleasure to enclose you a bill for £ 1,000, costing me Rs. 10,726 at 1s. 10¼d sight drawn by Oriental Bank Corporation on Bank of England, and I have endorsed to your good self, which please realize and pay to the Prussian and French authorities in my behalf—£500 to each of them for distribution among their wounded of the armies presently engaged in several battles in Europe.

Though the occurrence took place in a foreign land at so great a distance, I could not obtain a peace to my mind ever since the fearful slaughter and maiming of human beings : now from this day I shall satisfy myself that I served people in great distress with little money I can spare to forward for the good of my co-creatures.

You must pardon the trouble I put you in, but you will forgive me when I say you were my good and honoured late Governor of Bombay .... Please inform the Secretary of State for India officially of the deed of one of her Indian subjects assisting England's neighbours in their distress.

I remain, my dear Sir, yours sincerely,

COWASJI JEHANGIR."

Out of respect to the memory of Sir Cowasji, many of the Parsi shops, schools, and places of business in Bombay, as well as the share bazar and Elphinstone College were closed on the day of his death. The Banks also suspended business the next day for one hour. In 1872 the good people of Bombay, in discharge of their duties and in recognition of his greatness, had voted a statue and an address to Sir Cowasji. We are not told whether they intend to raise a monument to his memory after death. If they have exhausted the memorials to the great man whose statue already adorns the 'Sir Cowasji Jehangir Hall of the University of Bombay," they may glorify his virtues in his adopted son and successor. Such a precedent was laid down by Sir Richard Temple at the distribution of Famine honours in Bengal. Titles in advance were gazetted for the heirs of benefactors and benefactresses of Bengal Famine sufferers.'

The honour for the son comes too late, but after an expenditure in public of half the amount of the father in private charity. The adoption of the father's name has been justified. It remains for the son to win the other title, or a baronetcy to perpetuate the name. We live in cheap times. If he only sticks to it and lives, he is sure to get it.

KHAJA SELIMULLA has given up the Government service the rules whereof had been relaxed to admit him This is the second time that he throws up his appointment. Once he had overstayed his leave. But he was re-gazetted. This time, we believe, he has resigned deliberately. He has made his peace with his father, on whose bounty he means to throw himself, his two wives and about half a dozen of children The Government pittance was not enough for so many in their position in society. Khajah Selim is only 26 years of age and is reported to be an angel of a man. We will be glad to hear that he is given his proper place in the new Nawabate of Dacca

THE Dacca Division has failed to elect its member for the Bengal Legislative Council Not that there were no candidates. The four District Boards had appointed four delegates and these four gentlemen had so evenly balanced their judgments that they could not come to a definite conclusion. Four names in two sets were proposed, and each time found equal supporters, there being a tie on both the occasions. There were thus four candidates, that is one for each delegate. Dacca is a go-ahead and intelligent division, and it is to be deplored that the first exercise of the franchise fails there. Under the rules, it is open to the Lieutenant Governor to make the nomination himself. But the power is not absolute He is not precluded from giving the District Boards another opportunity of exercising the hard-earned privilege. When a person recommended is not acceptable to the Lieutenant Governor, he is to order another election under the rules. Considering that it is the first occasion when the recommending delegates could not agree, the Local Government may, without any impropriety, rather with good grace, give a second chance. By their obstinacy the delegates have undoubtedly proved themselves unfit But it is the rules more than the representatives that are to blame. A rule that lays down an even number without a second or casting vote is bad *ab initio*, and Government is responsible for it. If the delegates have proved perverse, let them be re-elected. Let it not be said of Dacca that it is not worthy of the privilege.

In making his own nomination, the Lieutenant Governor incurs a serious responsibility. For he must choose "a person belonging to the class which the body or association or group is deemed to represent." It is only when that body or group absolutely fail that the right is to be taken from them and exercised on their behalf. It is competent to the Lieutenant Governor to reject as often as he pleases a recommendation. Why should he then limit a body empowered by law to make the recommendation to one opportunity? If the four persons named at the meeting of the delegates are not acceptable to the Dacca people in general as represented by the nominees of the District Boards of the Division, there are others who may gain their confidence. At any rate, let not the sins of their delegates be visited on the electing Boards.

POLICE reports and Government resolutions say that in Bengal, when the rice-crop fails, certain crimes, especially dacoity and robbery, increase. A proportion seems to be maintained between increase of robbery and decrease in the production of the staple grain The inference, therefore, is that robbery is directly induced by hunger. Climatic influences then, or the clouds, are responsible for the crime, do what the Police, which is otherwise highly efficient, might. Considering, however, the features of certain crimes and taking into account the national character of the people, we are unable to accept

this fashionable explanation. The fact is, the existence of a criminal population in Bengal, as in other provinces of India, cannot be denied. For the most part the villages of Bengal are quite unprotected. The low-paid village chowkidars are an exceedingly worthless set of men. Insufficient as their number is, compared with the extent of their beats, it would be something if they were regular in their nightly rounds. Irregularity, however, is the rule with them. During the dark fortnight, they seldom go out, or if they leave their beds, it is for the shortest time possible. Robbers of kinds, from those who are content with things of little value temptingly exposed in unhedged gardens or unwalled houses, to those who make secret and burglarious entries into houses or invade them openly and in numbers, well or ill armed with offensive weapons, are free to ply their respective vocations without let or hindrance. The Bengali is generally timid. Surprised in the midst of his sleep by a number of armed men ready to treat him and his very roughly if he does not surrender his valuables, and well knowing that none of his neighbours would come forward with any assistance, he becomes utterly helpless and unresisting. It should be remembered, however, that they who commit dacoities are Bengalis. If convict returns be studied, these men will generally appear to belong to the lowest castes, such as Bagdis, Domes, Pods, Chandals, Teors, Kauras, with here and there a high caste individual who, without actually assisting the attacks on houses, keeps the gang together, directs its operations, disposes of the plunder and distributes the proceeds. The villagers know who amongst them live by stealing and dacoity. Only they have not the courage to denounce them. If they do, there is no end of trouble for them. In the first place, enough evidence would be wanting. Then they would incur the penalty of having brought a serious charge against a subject who is entitled to all the protection that the law can afford. Lastly, the denounced individual himself is sure to take vengeance. The safest course, therefore, of maintaining a thorough silence is adopted. The dacoits themselves very generally act with prudence. They commit their depredations in villages distant from their own, so that it is the interest of no body who knows them to utter even a breath of suspicion. The Thuggi Commission had acted on different principles. Individuals who had no ostensible means of livelihood or who were denounced by half-a-dozen respectable neighbours as criminals were lodged in the goal. The result was most satisfactory. For some years after the Commission had closed its labours, the crime of dacoity and highway robbery and even petty thefts, were practically stamped out of the country. Property became safe. Those who through the leniency of neighbours were not incarcerated gave up their criminal practices and settled down either as peaceful cultivators or day-labourers or as chowkidars in private employ. Seeing that cases of dacoity occur in even the metropolitan districts of Bengal, the cry is general for a return to the days of the Thuggi Commission. Doubtless, some innocent men would suffer if general repute were to settle the question of guilt. But the percentage would be very large of real criminals being spotted and lodged in prison so that property would once more be safe in the mofussil. Vigorous measures are loudly called for.

It will not do for the administration to sit with folded hands and say that it is the failure of the staple crop that is responsible for the increase of robbery.

THE little market town of Janai in Sub-division Serampore, is one of those few places within the metropolitan districts which is inhabited by a community owning social allegiance to Brahman chiefs. Janai has a higher class English School which traces its origin to pre-university days and which had the Hon'ble J. E. D. Bethune for its patron. That great educationist had honoured this village with two visits, wading on the first occasion through water and mire almost knee-deep and extending over a mile along a pathway branching off from the old Benares Road. In later times, Janai was visited, among others, by such persons connected with the Education Department as Dr. Mouat, Mr. Sutcliffe, Mr. Grapel, the Rev. Dr. Kaye, Mr. Pratt, Mr. Woodrow, Mr. Atkinson, and Mr. George Smith (afterwards of the *Friend of India*), Mr. Sime, and Mr. Trafford of Serampore. Mr. Sutcliffe, in particular, was struck by the fact of the class-rolls of the school numbering none but Mookerjees and Banerjees and Chatterjees and Gangulies with a sprinkling of only Ghoses and Boses and Mitters and Dutts. The system of education followed in the Janai school and which gave it a distinctive feature before the influence of the Calcutta University brought all educational institutions in Bengal to a dead level, was the Training system inaugurated at Glasgow by Daivd Stowe. Its peculiarity consisted in the simultaneous training of the intellectual, the moral, and the physical powers of the boy. After the establishment of the Calcutta University and the high-pressure teaching it has brought in its train, the Janai school lost its individuality though it maintained its ground tolerably well, measuring its efficiency by its success in the public examinations. Through causes that have no interest for the public a split arose in the managing committee, with the result that a new school was established at Payaragacha within half a mile. The Payaragacha school proved a vigourous youngster, for its success in the University examinations was decidedly marked, considering the difficulties which it had to encounter. So far as strength of rolls, however, was concerned, both the schools suffered, for the school-going population of the neighbourhood is not large enough to support two rival institutions. After more than six years of separate existence, through the efforts of Babu Abinash Chandra Mookerjee of the well-known Mookerjee family of Janai, the new school has been amalgamated with the old one. The committee of management have been enlarged by the accession of many new members, and it is expected that the amalgamated school will once more take its proper position in the list of such institutions in the metropolitan District. Among other reforms the committee have announced the intention of admitting Mussalman children, of whom about a dozen are already on the rolls. There was a good gathering of the local gentry on the occasion and all the speakers who addressed the meeting cordially thanked Babu Abinash Chandra for his unremitting labours, extending over a year, in bringing about so desirable a result. There can be no doubt that those well-to-do gentlemen of the neighbourhood who have removed their children from Janai to Calcutta will send them back to their own school. Many of these boys distinguish themselves highly in the University Examinations, credit being taken by those schools which send them up, although the Janai school has the honour of grounding their education.

The Indian Association for the Cultivation of Science.

210, Bow-Bazar Street, Calcutta.

(Session 1895-96.)

Lecture by Babu Ram Chandra Datta, F.C.S., on Monday, the 15th inst., at 4 P.M. *Subject:* Compounds of Nitrogen with Hydrogen and Oxygen.

Lecture by Dr Niratan Sarkar, M.A., M.D., on Monday, the 15th inst., at 6 to 8 P.M. *Subjects*. Practical Zoology—The Fowl. Zoology—Protozoa.

Lecture by Dr. D. N. Chatterjee, B.A., M.B., C.M., on Tuesday, the 16th inst., at 6 to 8 P.M. *Subjects*. Histology—Connective Tissue. Physiology—Respiration.

Lecture by Babu Ram Chandra Dutta, F.C.S., Wednesday, the 17th inst., at 4-15 P.M. *Subject:* Preparation and Properties of Nitric acid.

Lecture by Babu Rajendra Nath Chatterjee, M.A., on Wednesday, the 17th inst., at 7 30 P.M. *Subject*: Hydrostatics—Pascal's Law and the laws of pressure and equilibrium in liquids.

Lecture by Babu Ram Chandra Dutta, F.C.S., Friday, the 19th inst. at 4-15 P.M. *Subject*: Chlorine and its Compound with Hydrogen.

Lecture by Dr Niratan Sarkar, M.A., M.D., Friday, the 19th inst., at 6 to 7 P.M. *Subject*: Chemical Physiology—Milk.

Admission Fee, Rs. 4 for Physics, and Rs. 4 for Chemistry; Rs. 6 for both Physics and Chemistry; Rs. 4 for Physiology; Rs. 4 for General Biology; Rs. 6 for complete course of Physiology and Biology. The charge for a single lecture is 2 Annas.

MAHENDRA LAL SIRCAR, M.D.,
Honorary Secretary.

July 13, 1895.

REIS & RAYYET.

Saturday, July 13, 1895

THE CHEAP DEFENCE OF THE NATION.

IT is ten years that Captain Andrew Hearsey conceived his idea of a cheap Reserve for the Indian Army. The first occasion on which he spoke out was at the Reception given him by the India Club shortly after his prosecution, by Mr. Laidman, I.C.S., on a charge of defamation. It is a matter of history that that prosecution ended in a miserable fiasco. In replying to the kind sentiments expressed at the

Reception, the Captain pointed out how useful the troops of the Native States could, under proper training, be made in the defence of the Indian Empire. He was cheered for the idea, and requested to publish his scheme.

When, in 1886, the Captain wrote his pamphlet on "Army Reorganization with special reference to the question of a Reserve for the Indian Army," the Indian Army had no reserve. Now it has a reserve of 75,000 men fully equal in every respect to the regular Native Infantry, which force, again, in time of need, could easily be raised to 3,50,000. The Reserves have already proved their fitness as soldiers in the recent Chitral campaign. The pamphlet was given a cold reception in India. The prejudice against the writer proved prejudicial to it. They kept a discreet silence over it, probably because,

1. The advice and recommendations had not been put forward by any of the heads of the Military, Political, or Financial Departments.

2. The recommendations had been put forward by a poor and retired officer.

Captain Hearsey was not, however, deterred by this show of neglect. He knew the strength of his cause. The pamphlet was largely circulated in the European countries. The press of France, Austria and Germany spoke favourably of the Captain's suggestions. Much amusement was caused in India by the first lines of an article in one of the French journals in which the writer confounded the Captain's place of residence in India, Mussooree in the Himalayas, with Missuri in America.

Considering the egregious blunders Anglo-Indians make, this mistake of the French editor was pardonable.

The knowing Anglo-Indians in India, who, reflecting the policy of the Government of the day, would not see any good in the pamphlet, and who probably predicted a failnre of the cause from the geographical ignorance of those who saw much in it, were disappointed. The notices in the Continental papers attracted the attention of the Secretary of State for India, who ordered copies of the pamphlet, and enquired of the Government of India as to the practicability of its recommendations. It is not to be supposed that the Indian press was entirely silent. Such of the editors to whom the name of the Captain is enough to rake up all bile and uncharitableness had denounced the scheme as chimerical.

Lord Dufferin was not a Viceroy to be scared away by interested denunciation or sounding phrases. Finding the suggestions valuable, he called for opinions. Before he laid down the reins of Government he had announced, at Patiala, in the cold weather of 1888, the acceptance of the offers of help from Native Princes and the organization of the Imperial Service Troops. General Sir George Greaves, subsequently Commander-in-Chief, Bombay, and Sir Herbert Macpherson, Commander-in-Chief, Madras, both personal friends of Captain Hearsey, were already familiar with his views. The first, when asked, thought very highly of the scheme, while the second said that there was a great deal in the suggestion. The pamphlet must have impressed the Duke of Connaught for he soon after supported the recommendation for the formation of a Military College for the better instruction of Native officers of the Indian Army.

True it is that Lord Roberts, the Commander-in-Chief, was about this time considering the question of a reserve for the Indian Army. But the lines on which he meant to proceed were different from the Captain's. He had in view the reserve of the British Army in England, a system not suited to India, and which, if applied to India, would have considerably swelled the military budget which already swallows a large portion of the revenues. Finding the Hearsey scheme eminently practical, the Commander-in-Chief dropped his. He, moreover, from Rangoon where he was touring, sent to Captain Hearsey a complimentary letter of thanks for the pamphlet and, what was more, for the valuable suggestions it contained.

Besides the enrolment of the Feudatories' troops as a reserve, the pamphlet recommended the throwing open the military Order of the Victoria Cross to our sepoys. There was no reason why the Indian black soldiers' claim to this much valued decoration should not be recognized, when Germans, Frenchmen, Spaniards, Italians, Americans and all other nationalities serving in the British army or navy were free to win it.

It may fairly be said that the Government of India have benefitted much by Captain Hearsey's valuable advice and suggestions, not only politically but also financially. Yet, we regret to observe, that that Government have not so much or so little as thanked the Captain for what he has done for the Indian Empire. When he was not deemed worthy of even bare thanks, it was out of the question to find his name in the recent honours list as a kind of recognition of the strength he has added to the Empire—a force capable of immediate expansion. If the Captain had been a subject of any of the European Continental Powers, we make no doubt, he would have long reaped his reward. Any other but he would have been duly honoured. The Captain bears an odious name, and the Government of India are wise :

Now there was a poor wise man, and he by his wisdom delivered a city, yet no man remembered the same poor man.

Then, said I, wisdom is better than strength ; nevertheless the poor man's wisdom is despised and his words not heard.

The words of a wise man are heard in quiet more than the cry of him that ruleth fools.

Wisdom is better than weapons of war.

We may mention that the views of Captain Hearsey originally appeared in these columns on the 6th November, 1886, under the heading "The Cheap Defence of the Nation," with which also we head this article. The Captain has made a further suggestion, in a letter which will be found in our last issue. It requires careful consideration.

THE SENSITIVENESS OF POETS.

Love of fame is strong in every breast. The higher the sphere of life, the more ambitious the scheme for its gratification. It is, again, guilty or innocent, according to the character of that scheme. Genghiz Khan or Tamerlane, raising pyramids of human heads as trophies of every new conquest, acted as much from desire of fame as any other crowned head whose beneficence to mankind shines from the pages of history. Universal though the passion is, its gratification depends more on luck than wisdom and exertion. It has been said that if Cæsar and Cromwell had exchanged countries or ages, the one would have been a pious centurion and the other the sheriff of his county. The same cannot be said of poets. Horace, if born in England, would have sung as well in English as he has in Latin. Hafez, if born in India, would have produced as fine verses in Sanskrit as his own songs in Persian.

When luck proves adverse and the desire of fame is not gratified, the disappointment acts differently on different minds. The weak are cured of the desire itself. Not so the strong. A mountain current, opposed by a boulder, either washes it down or

overleaps it in fury. Memorable were Disraeli's words upon the failure of his first speech in Parliament. He lived to make good his prediction. His success was complete and both Houses did afterwards listen to him with rapt attention. Poets are peculiarly sensitive. Every member of the brotherhood thinks that he is deserving of applause for every trifle he puts forth. Contemporary readers are generally unwilling to acknowledge such pretensions. It is interesting to note the frame of mind of different poets of different climes and ages upon finding the world unwilling to endorse their own estimate of their genius. Some become so depressed as to absolutely give up courting the Muses. Some fret and fume, calling the world names. Some have been known to have burnt their writings in rage, resolved to deprive the world of their pleasure. Others, however, conscious of their own powers, have waited with unruffled minds, strong in the conviction that the time would come when their writings would be appreciated and their images placed in the temple of fame. They have even rebuked the world with grave dignity. We will first name Bhavabhuti. Finding himself neglected, and probably lashed by the critics of the day, the great Sanskrit dramatist, conscious of his genius, retaliated on those who disregarded or found fault with him. His vengeance was not characterised by the malice of a Pope or the audacity of a Dryden. It was not even a dignified prayer after Milton for a fit audience though few. It was a proud self-assertion of power, a withering contempt for his detractors, a calm expectation of appreciation by a kindred spirit born or to be born. It was no attempt to represent hostile critics or more favoured authors as princes of bores deserving to rule a kingdom of dunces. Here is how the poet nobly rebuked an unappreciating world :---

Ye náma kechidiha nah prathayantyavajnám,
Jánanti te kimapi tán prati naisha yatnah ;
Utpatsyatesti mama kopi samánadharmá,
Kálohyam niravadhirvipula cha prithvi.

"Those men who express a disregard for us, know very little ; this effort is not for them. There may arise in the future, or there may be at the present moment, some one with accomplishments equal to mine (and, therefore, capable of appreciating me), for time is eternal, and the world very wide."

In the entire range of literature, eastern or western, there is, perhaps, not another instance of similar pride and reliance on one's own merits, barring a very poor effort in an obscure quarter in consequence of which Bhavabhuti can no longer be said to enjoy the singular glory of having cherished such sentiments. It was reserved for the author, extensively unknown, of *Bungadhipa-parájaya* to adopt the verses of the great Bráhman poet on the reverse of his title-page.

The pride displayed by Bhavabhuti in his *Uttara-charita* was scarcely less audacious though it involved no rebuke to anybody. There he calls himself a Brahman whom the goddess of speech follows as an obedient wife. Kalidasa was cast in a different mould. That prince of dramatists, who has eclipsed the fame of all Indian poets before him or after, and who is inferior to no poet in at least the culling of all that is beautiful in nature, finding himself contemned, gently remonstrated with the world, only to teach not to reprove it for its folly. In the prologue of his *Malavikágnimitra*, he says:---

Puránamityeva na sádhu sarvam,
Nachápi kávyam navamityavadyam ;
Santah parikshyányatarad bhanjante,
Mudah parapratyayaneyabudhih.

"All that is old is not good ; nor is a poem, that is new, faulty. The wise prefer this or that after adequate examination. The fool, however, suffers his understanding to be led by the beliefs of other people."

Entering the field of English literature, we notice the same variety of sentiments with which poets have looked upon the disregard of the world or the censures cast upon them. Disappointed of fame, though none so worthy of it as he, Milton spoke of fame as the last infirmity of noble mind. His prayer to the Muse for a fit audience though few, was prompted by his own gentle nature. The humility and modesty of Goldsmith was proverbial. Finding how contemporary poetry was looked upon in his day, he wrote in his *Traveller* of merit as "weeping unknown." Though he was greeted, on the publication of that poem, with a fair measure of praise, yet it was much less than what he had expected. Hence his fine apostrophe to Poetry at the conclusion of his *Deserted Village*. The sentiments were his, though the lines are believed to have been polished by his friend Johnson. It is an humble converse between the Muse and her votary, without abuse of any body in which the votary pours out his heart to the listening goddess. Cowper, too, had to complain of neglect. The poet of Onley was too shy to earn any sort of notoriety by those vulgar arts which are sometimes practised by even men of merit when the game is the acquisition of fame. He had praised Chatham. But Chatham did nothing for him. He was not at all sorry for the neglect of the great. This, however, is his reproof for those who were unwilling to judge of him by his merits, and who, in according praise, were led either by idleness, or by sound and fury, instead of sense.

Some to the fascination of a name
Surrender judgment hoodwink'd. Some the style
Infatuates, and through labyrinths and wilds
Of error leads them, by a tune entranc'd.
While sloth seduces more, too weak to bear
The insupportable fatigue of thought ;
And swallowing therefore without pause or choice
The total grist unsifted, husks and all.

Cowper has very successfully hit some of the weaknesses of humanity in this passage. Byron's was a keenly sensitive and rebellious nature. The child who could not bear the chidings of a mother was not likely to put up with the lash of the critic. Accordingly, when his juvenile poems were harshly reviewed in the great literary periodical of the day,---the notice was from the caustic pen of Brougham,-- the whole force of Byron's mind was roused. Without being at all depressed, he was filled with indignation, and the result was one of the keenest satires in the English language which the poet in after years wished to suppress.

THE FORDYCE RESOLUTION.

Read,---Government Resolution No. 1989 J., dated 9th April 1895, appointing a Commission for the purpose of enquiry into charges of corruption which had been brought against Mr. C. A. W. Fordyce, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector of Dacca.

The report of the Commissioners, Mr. C. W. Bolton and Babu Peary Mohan Banerjee, dated 8th June 1895, together with record of evidence and miscellaneous papers submitted by them.

The Lieutenant-Governor has carefully considered the Report of the Commission which was appointed for the purpose of deciding on Mr. Fordyce's fitness for retention in the public services. The Procedure followed by the Commission, with the approval of Government, was first to enquire into specific charges of taking illegal gratifications, next to record evidence of general report in Dacca regarding Mr. Fordyce's conduct, and finally to examine generally his judicial work at Dacca.

2. Six cases of alleged corruption have been thoroughly enquired into : the evidence on both sides has been fully taken down and a careful judicial finding has been recorded in each case by the Commission. The Lieutenant-Governor agrees that it was unnecessary to extend the enquiry to a larger number of cases. A single instance of corruption fully proved---such as the second case in which Thakur Das Banikya was concerned, a case of flagrant injustice, tyranny and extortion---would have been sufficient to establish Mr. Fordyce's unfitness for the public service. The Commission have found that in all six cases the charge of corruption is distinctly proved. It is unnecessary to recite the facts which are set forth in detail in the report, but it is observed that in two cases money was taken from both the complainant and the accused, and in one case from a second batch of accused subsequently summoned ; the six cases therefore resolve themselves into nine specific charges. Sir Charles Elliot has carefully examined the evidence and considered the judicial comments of the Commission thereon, and does not

entertain the slightest doubt that on all the counts on which enquiry was made, Mr. Fordyce has been justly found guilty of bribery and corruption.

3. It is alleged by Mr. Fordyce that the pleaders and mukhtears of Dacca have conspired to get up these charges against him. But this allegation is rejected by the Commission as absolutely unfounded. No evidence of the existence of a vindictive motive for the action taken by the members of the Bar was adduced before the Commission. It is shown that many months before the pleaders and mukhtears submitted their memorial to Government, public attention had been drawn by the local press to the rumours circulating regarding Mr. Fordyce, and there is evidence that such rumours were current a few months after he joined at Dacca. Pleaders and mukhtears also deposed before the Commission that specific acts of corruption were brought to their notice from time to time by their clients. The Commission have placed in record in submitting their memorial to Government, that the pleaders were actuated solely and entirely by a desire to put an end to the grave scandal which they believed existed. They also declare that the principal witnesses before them gave their evidence naturally and truthfully, and that the cases appeared to have been laid before them in a thoroughly honest manner.

4. The evidence as to general report is based upon the statements of many of the chief residents of Dacca, including Nawab Khwaja Ahsanullah Bahadur, C. I. E, and several members of the District and municipal Boards, Honorary Magistrates and Zemindars one and all speak to the fact that a widespread rumour prevailed in Dacca that Mr. Fordyce took money from parties appearing before him, and few mentioned instances in which they were actually told of the payment of money by the persons from whom it was taken. The Commission remark: "There is thus no question whatsoever that Mr. Fordyce was generally believed in Dacca to be corrupt, and to be so, not rarely and occasionally, but constantly and systematically." The Lieutenant-Governor agrees that it is in the highest degree improbable that such a belief should have been without any foundation, and considers that its existence raises a stong presumption of the truth of the specific charges of corruption.

5. The Commission have furnished, in the appendix to their report, particulars of 17 judicial records which were examined by them, with their remarks thereon, and Mr. Fordyce's explanations. In addition, they examined less minutely the record of all cases disposed of by Mr, Fordyce during his service in Dacca. They point out many irregularities and defects in procedure, and sum up this portion of their report by observing:—"On the whole we think that there is much in the records of Mr. Fordyce's cases generally, which tends to support the conclusion that he was systematically corrupt."

6. The Commission conclude their report with the following words:—"Having completed all sections of our report, we have now, in conclusion, to state our finding on the specific question referred to us, that is, whether Mr. Fordyce is or is not a fit person to be retained in Government service. After the opinions which we have expressed in reviewing the evidence on the specific charges of corruption preferred against Mr. Fordyce, our answer to that question is obvious. We are clearly of opinion that Mr. Fordyce is entirely unfit to be retained in public service. He has been proved to our satisfaction to have, with the assistance of his servant Rajab Ali, carried on a systematic course of extorting money by intimidation from parties concerned in criminal cases heard by him, and his further employment by the Government is impossible. We believe him to be possessed of fair ability, but we have also no doubt of his thorough want of principle. In view of the very serious nature of the conduct of which we have found him guilty, the question whether he should be criminally prosecuted may again suggest itself. Our opinion on this question has not been desired, but we venture to remark that the Government was, in our opinion, well advised not to institute a criminal prosecution, and that it will be wise to adhere to that decision. The direct evidence remains that of accomplices, or persons who may be held to be such, and there is not much corroborated evidence which would be admissible in a judicial trial.

7. The Lieutenant-Governor has no hesitation in respect of the orders to be passed on this report. Such men as Mr. Fordyce are a conker in the Executive Branch of the Provincial service, and it is impossible to inflict any other punishment than dismissal. The Lieutenant-Governor concurs with the verdict of the Commission that Mr. Fordyce is entirely unfit to be retained in the public service, and directs that he be dismissed from the employ of Government with effect from the date when he was placed under suspension.

8. His Honour desires, in conclusion, to acknowledge the careful, exhaustive and thoroughly impartial manner in which the Commission have conducted their enquiry, and thanks the members, Mr. Bolton and Babu Peary Mohan Banerjee, for their complete report.

H. J. S. COTTON.
Chief Secretary to the Govt. of Bengal.

CONVENTION BETWEEN GREAT BRITAIN AND AUSTRIA-HUNGARY FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF INTERNATIONAL COPYRIGHT

Signed at Vienna, April 24th, 1893.
Ratifications exchanged at Vienna, April 24th, 1894.

[The Convention with the correspondence on the subject is published in the *Gazette of India* of July 6, 1895. By an Order in Council dated the 11th May, 1895, the Convention has been made applicable to India.]

Her Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, Empress of India, etc., and His Majesty the Emperor of Austria, King of Bohemia, etc., and Apostolic King of Hungary, animated with the desire to secure in the most complete manner, within their respective dominions, the rights of authors, or their legal representatives over their literary or artistic works, have resolved to conclude a Convention to that effect, and have named as their Plenipotentiaries, that is to say:

Her Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, Empress of India, etc., the Right Honourable Sir Augustus Berkeley Paget, Knight Grand Cross of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath, a Member of Her Britannic Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council, Her Majesty's Ambassador Extraodinary and Plenipotentiary to His Imperial and Royal Apostolic Majesty, etc., etc., etc.;

His Majesty the Emperor of Austria, King of Bohemia, etc., and Apostolic King of Hungary, the Count Gustave Kálnoky de Korospatak, Knight of the Golden Fleece, Knight Grand Cross of the Order of St. Stephen, Knight of the Order of Leopold, His Imperial and Royal Apostolic Majesty's Privy Councillor and Chamberlain, Minister of the Imperial House and of Foreign Affairs, General of Cavalry, etc., etc., etc.;

Who, having communicated to each other their respective Full Powers, found in good and due form, have agreed upon the following Articles:

ARTICLE I.

Authors of literary or artistic works and their legal representatives, including publishers, shall enjoy reciprocally, in the dominions of the High Contracting Parties, the advantages which are, or may be, granted by law there for the protection of works of literature or art.

Consequently, authors of literary or artistic works which have been first published in the dominions of one of the High Contracting Parties, as well as their legal representatives, shall have in the dominions of the other High Contracting Party the same protection and the same legal remedy against all infringement of their rights as if the work had been first published in the country where the infringement may have taken place.

In the same manner, the authors of literary or artistic works and their legal representatives, who are subjects of one of the High Contracting Parties, or who reside within its dominions, shall in the dominions of the Contracting Party enjoy the same protection and the same legal remedies against all infringements of their rights as though they were subjects of or residents in the State in which the infringement may have taken place.

These advantages shall only be reciprocally guaranteed to authors and their legal representatives when the work in question is also protected by the laws of the State where the work was first published, and the duration of protection in the other country shall not exceed that which is granted to authors and their legal representatives in the country where the work was first published.

ARTICLE II

The right of translation forming part of the copyright, the protection of the right of translation is assured under the conditions laid down by this Convention. If ten years after the expiry of the year in which a work to be protected in Her Majesty's dominions on the basis of this Convention has appeared, no translation in English has been published, the right of translating the work into English shall no longer within those dominions exclusively belong to the author.

In the case of a book published in numbers, the aforesaid period of ten years shall commence at the end of the year in which each number is published.

ARTICLE III.

Authorized translations are protected as original works. They consequently enjoy the full protection granted by this Convention against the unauthorized reproduction of original works.

It is understood that in the case of a work for which the translating right has fallen into the public domain, the translator cannot oppose the translation of the same work by other writers.

ARTICLE IV.

The expression "literary or artistic works" comprehends books, pamphlets and all other writings; dramatic or dramatico-musical works, musical compositions, with or without words; works of design, painting, sculpture, and engraving, lithographs, illustrations, geographical charts, plans, sketches, and plastic works relating to geography, topography, architecture, or science in general; in fact,

every production whatsoever in the literary, scientific, or artistic domain which can be published by any mode of impression or reproduction.

ARTICLE V.

In the British Empire, and in the Kingdoms and States represented in the Austrian Reichsrath, the enjoyment of the right secured by the present Convention is subject only to the accomplishment of the conditions and formalities prescribed by the law of that State in which the work is first published; and no further formalities or conditions shall be required in the other country.

Consequently, it shall not be necessary that a work which has obtained legal protection in one country should be registered, or copies thereof deposited in the other country, in order that the remedies against infringement may be obtained which are granted in the other country to works first published there.

In the dominions of the Hungarian Crown the enjoyment of these rights is subject, however, to the accomplishment of the conditions and formalities prescribed by the laws and regulations both of Great Britain and of Hungary.

ARTICLE VI.

In order that the authors of works protected by the present Convention shall, in the absence of proof to the contrary, be considered as such, and be, consequently, admitted to institute proceedings in respect of the infringement of copyright before the Courts of the other State, it will suffice that their name be indicated on the work in the accustomed manner.

The Tribunals may, however, in cases of doubt, require the production of such further evidence as may be required by the laws of the respective countries.

For anonymous or pseudonymous works, the publisher whose name is indicated on the work is entitled to protect the rights belonging to the author. He is, without other proof, reputed the legal representative of the anonymous or pseudonymous author, until the latter or his legal representative has declared and proved his rights.

ARTICLE VII.

The provisions of the present Convention cannot in any way derogate from the right of each of the High Contracting Parties to control, or to prohibit by, measures of domestic legislation or police the circulation, representation, exhibition, or sale of any work or production.

Each of the High Contracting Parties reserves also its right to prohibit the importation into its own territory of works which, according to its internal Laws, or the stipulations of Treaties with other States, are or may be declared to be illicit reproductions.

ARTICLE VIII.

The provisions of the present Convention shall be applied to literature or artistic works produced prior to the date of its coming into effect, subject, however, to the limitations prescribed by the following Regulations:

(*a*) In the Austro-Hungarian Monarchy---

Copies completed before the coming into force of the present Convention, the production of which has been hitherto allowed, can also be circulated in future.

In the same manner, appliances for the reproduction of works, such as stereotypes, wood-blocks, and engraved plates of every description, such as lithographers' stones, if their production has not hitherto been prohibited, may continue to be used during a period of four years from the coming into force of the present Convention.

The distribution of such copies, and the use of the said appliances, is, however, only permitted if an inventory of the said copies and appliances is taken by the Government in question, in consequence of an application of the interested party, within three months from the coming into force of the present Convention, and if these copies and appliances are marked with a special stamp.

Dramatic and dramatico-musical works, or musical compositions legally performed before the coming into force of the present Convention, can also be performed in the future.

(*b*) In the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland---

The author and publisher of any literary or artistic work first produced before the date at which this Convention comes into effect shall be entitled to all legal remedies against infringement; provided that where any person has before the date of the publication of the Order in Council putting this Convention into effect, lawfully produced any work in the United Kingdom, any rights or interests arising from or in connection with such Production, which are subsisting and valuable at the said date, shall not be diminished or prejudiced.

ARTICLE IX.

The provisions of the present Convention shall apply to all the Colonies and foreign possessions of Her Britannic Majesty, excepting to those hereinafter named, that is to say, except to---

India.
The Dominion of Canada.
Newfoundland.
The Cape.
Natal.
New South Wales.
Victoria.
Queensland.
Tasmania,
South Australia.
Western Australia.
New Zealand.

Provided always that the provisions of the present Convention shall apply to any of the above-named Colonies or foreign possessions on whose behalf notice to that effect shall have been given by Her Britannic Majesty's Representative at the Court of His Imperial and Royal Apostolic Majesty within two years from the date of the exchange of ratifications of the present Convention.

ARTICLE X.

The present Convention shall remain in force for ten years from the day on which the ratifications are exchanged; and in case neither of the two High Contracting Parties shall have given notice twelve months before the expiration of the said period of ten years of their intention of terminating the present Convention, it shall remain in force until the expiration of one year from the day on which either of the High Contracting Parties shall have given such notice.

Her Britannic Majesty's Government shall also have the right to denounce the Convention in the same manner, on behalf of any of the Colonies or foreign possessions mentioned in Article IX, separately.

ARTICLE XI.

The present Convention shall be ratified, and the ratifications shall be exchanged at Vienna as soon as possible. It shall come into effect ten days after its publication in conformity with the forms prescribed by the Laws of the High Contracting Parties respectively.

In witness whereof, the respective Plenipotentiaries have signed this Convention, and have hereunto affixed their seals.

Done at Vienna, the 24th day of April, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and ninety-three.

(Signed)

A. B. PAGET. (L.S.)
KALNOKY. (L.S.)

SEVEN POUNDS IN ONE WEEK.

NOT every man who is thin would thank you for fattening him. He doesn't want to be fat and for very good reasons. Unnecessary fat is a load to carry about; it interferes with a man's power to work, shortens his wind, and dulls his wits.

Yet, on the other hand, a certain amount of flesh is needed for health and comfort. For example: A man five feet high should weight about 120lbs.; and man five feet six inches, 145lbs.; a man six feet, 178lbs. It is a regular ascending scale. The insurance companies allow a variation of 7 per cent. above or below it, and beyond those limits charge an extra premium. One shouldn't be much over or under his proper weight if he wants to be sound and hearty—and we all do want that.

Now we will tell you how Mr. Thomas Crosby, being under weight, gained seven pounds in a week. He had lost 1½ stone, which is too much off for a man who was never fleshier than he naturally ought to be.

It was this way. He was right enough up to May, 1891. At that time he began to feel ill and out of sorts. He had a nasty taste in his mouth—like rotten eggs, he says—and a thick, slimy stuff came on his gums and teeth. His appetite failed, and what he did eat was, as you might say, under compulsion; and right afterwards he would have great pain in his stomach and chest. Plainly, something was amiss with him in that region. He was often dizzy, and cold chills ran over him as though he were threatened with fever. Of course we should expect a man who is handled in this way to lose strength. Mr. Crosby lost strength. In fact, he got so weak and nervous that he shook all over, and his hands trembled as if a current of electricity were running through him.

To use his own words: "I rapidly lost flesh, was 1½ stone lighter, and could hardly walk about. Once my parents thought I was dying, and sent in haste for the doctor. I saw two doctors in Epworth and one at Haxey, but they were not able to help me. Our vicar, Rev. Mr. Overton, recommended me to the Lincoln Infirmary, where I attended for eight weeks as an outdoor patient, without benefit.

"Soon afterwards Mr. Sharp, a chemist, at Epworth, spoke to me of the virtues of a medicine known as Mother Seigel's Curative Syrup. Being interested in what he said, I left off trying other things and began taking this Syrup. In a few days I felt better, and presently I gained seven pounds in a week. At that rate I soon got back to my work, and have had the best of health ever since. I tell these facts to everybody, and am perfectly willing they should be published. Yours truly (Signed), TOM CROSBY, Ferry Road, Epworth, *via* Doncaster, December 23rd, 1892."

After reading Mr. Crosby's story we scarcely need to ask why he lost flesh. The minute he stopped eating and digesting his usual allowance of food he began to fall away. Trees, they say, grow as much from the air by means of their leaves, as they do from the soil. But men don't. They've got to be built up through their stomachs. Indigestion and dyspepsia (Mr. Crosby's complaint) stops this process and poisons those who have it, besides. That accounts for all the painful and dangerous symptoms our friend speaks of. The doctors do what they can, but, unluckily, they don't possess the medicine that goes to the bottom of this disease and cures it. The remedy is Mother Seigel's Curative Syrup, and nothing else, so far as we know. It restores digestion, and digestion covers the bones with fat enough for health and good looks.

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WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

VOL. XIV. CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, JULY 20, 1895. WHOLE NO. 684.

CONTEMPORARY POETRY.

TO SWALLOWS ON THE EVE OF DEPARTURE.

BY B. SIMMONS.

"The day before V——'s departure for the last time from the country—it was the 4th of August, one of the hottest days of the season—as evening fell, he strolled with an old school-fellow through the cool green avenues and leafy arcades of the neighbouring park, where his friend amused him by pointing out to his attention vast multitudes of swallows that came swarming from all directions to settle on the roofs and gables of the manor-house. This they do for several days preparatory to their departing, in one collected body, to more genial climates." - *MS. Memoir.*

I.

JOYOUS birds! preparing
In the clear evening light
To leave our dwindled summer sky
For latitudes more bright!
How gay must be your greeting,
By southern fountains meeting,
To miss no faithful wing of all that started in your flight!

II.

Every clime and season
Fresh gladness brings to you.
Howe'er remote your social throngs
Their varied path pursue;
No winds nor waves dissever—
No dusky veil'd FOREVER,
Frowneth across your fearless way in the empyrean blue. *

III.

Mates and merry brothers
Were ye in Arctic hours,
Mottling the evening beam that sloped
Adown old Gothic towers!
As blythe that sunlight dancing
Will see your pinions' glancing
Scattering afar through Tropic groves the spicy bloom in showers!

IV.

Haunters of palaced wastes! †
From king-forlorn Versailles
To where, round gateless Thebes, the winds
Like monarch voices wail,
Your tribe capricious ranges,
Reckless of glory's changes,
Love makes for ye a merry home amid the ruins pale.

V.

Another day, and ye
From knosp and turret's brow
Shall, with your fleet of crowding wings,
Air's viewless billows plough,
With no keen-fang'd regretting
Our darken'd hill-sides quitting,
—Away in fond companionship as cheerily as now!

VI.

Woe for the soul-endued—
The clay-enthralled mind—
Leaving, unlike you, favor'd birds!
Its all—its all behind,
Woe for the exile mourning,
To banishment returning—
A mateless bird wide torn apart from country and from kind!

VII.

This moment blest as ye,
Beneath his own home-trees,
With friends and fellows girt around,
Up springs the western breeze,
Bringing the parting weather—
Shall all depart together?
Ah, no!—he goes a wretch alone upon the lonely seas

VIII.

To him the mouldering tower—
The pillar'd waste, to him
A broken-hearted music make
Until his eyelids swim.
None heeds when he complaineth,
Nor where that brow he leaneth
A mother's lips shall bless no more sinking to slumber dim.

IX.

Winter shall wake to spring,
And 'mid the fragrant grass
The daffodil shall watch the rill
Like Beauty by her glass.
But woe for him who pineth
Where the clear water shineth,
With no voice near to say—How sweet those April evenings pass!

* "They all quit together, and fly for a time east or west, possibly in wait for straggliers not yet arrived from the interior—they then take directly to the south, and are soon lost sight of altogether for the allotted period of their absence. Their rapidity of flight is well known, and the 'murder-aiming eye' of the most experienced sportsman will seldom avail against the swallow; hence they themselves seldom fall a prey to the raptorial birds."—Cuvier, *edited by Griffiths.* Swallows are long-lived; they have been known to live a number of years in cages.

† In the fanciful language of Chateaubriand, "This daughter of a king (the swallow) still seems attached to grandeur; she passes the summer amid the ruins of Versailles, and the winter among those of Thebes."

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X.

Then while through Nature's heart
Love freshly burns again,
Hither shall ye, plumed travellers,
Come trooping o'er the main;
The self-same nook disclosing
Its nest for your reposing
That saw you revel years ago as you shall revel then *

XI.

—Your human brother's lot!
A few short years are gone—
Back, back like you to early scenes—
Lo! at the threshold-stone,
Where ever in the gloaming
Home's angels watch'd his coming,
A stranger stands, and stares at him who sighing passes on.

XII

Joy to the travail worn!
Omnific purpose lies
Even in his bale as in your bliss,
Careerers of the skies!
When sun and earth, that cherish'd
Your tribes, with you have perish'd,
A home is his where partings more shall never dim the eyes.

—*Blackwood.*

WEEKLYANA.

THE Parthenon is to be repaired if not restored. The Archæological Society at Athens has decided to prevent the temple from further running into ruin. The repairs are to be on the lines suggested by the eminent German Professor Durm. He and the English and the French archæologists, Mr. F. C. Penrose, who has a work on Athenian Architecture, and M. Magne have been requested to give their views and advice on the details of the proposed repairs. We hope they will be better than those to the Taj at Agra.

***

JUNE 24, the anniversary of the murder of President Carnot, was solemnly observed at Paris. President Faure went in state to the Panthéon and laid a wreath upon the tomb. He was followed by an enormous number of persons who also deposited a very large number of wreaths. The ruling President also attended a service at the Madeleine held in memory of the murdered President.

***

THEY have perfected a plan for weekly shipment, in refrigerator cars and cold-storage chambers, of cream and butter, from Canada to England.

***

AN English newspaper to be called the *German Times* is to be started in Berlin.

***

A RAILWAY from Russia into Persia, passing through Baku, Resht and Tabriz, is under consideration.

***

ON June 26, at the Imperial Institute, the Prince of Wales opened the fifth International Railway Congress. There were present delegates from various parts of the world. The Prince welcomed them on behalf of the Queen, himself and the great railway companies of England. Among other things, he said:

"Nearly seventy years ago the first railway that was constructed in the world, that between Stockton and Darlington, was opened. Five years later, in 1830, under circumstances of the most tragic kind, the first railway constructed under parliamentary powers and by money publicly subscribed was inaugurated for passenger traffic between Manchester and Liverpool, and a ceremony of great interest and greater promise was marred by the lamentable accident which led to the death of Mr. Huskisson. In the sixty years which have since elapsed, the development of railways has progressed throughout the world, and we have fitly met here to-day to show our interest in that celebrated industry which, probably more than any other, has enhanced the wealth and fostered the commerce of the world, and has tended to promote international friendship and universal goodwill (Cheers.) The Railway Congress had its origin in 1885, when a number of leading railway men met at Brussels to celebrate the Jubilee of the Belgian railways. Congresses have been since held in Milan in 1887, and in Paris in 1889; and the last Congress, which assembled in St. Petersburg in 1892, was made memorable by the splendid hospitality and great encouragement given to it by the late lamented Emperor of Russia. (Hear.) I fear that we cannot promise you the beauty of Italy, the gaiety of Paris, or the magnificent reception which was accorded to you on the last occasion on which you met; but we can show you Manchester, Liverpool, Cardiff, and Crewe, great centres of industry, from which I hope you will be able to derive useful knowledge, and in which you will be able also to see examples of the most beneficial work. I venture to say this even to our friends from the United States (a country which owns nearly half the railway mileage of the world), as well as to the representatives of India and our colonies, who have helped forward the work of railway development with a speed and a success which I think deserve the utmost commendation. The programme of discussion, interesting as it is to those who, like yourselves, know how to appreciate technical details, will be of interest likewise to the public. You will be asked to consider not only the acceleration of passenger trains, but the means for promoting the comfort of passengers by the use of vestibule or corridor cars, and of improved methods of heating and lighting. You will be also asked to consider arrangements for adding to the safety of the travelling public in such matters as signalling, interlocking, and the security of bridges. Electrical traction will present a field for your inquiries, as yet comparatively unexplored; and on the subject of light railways you will be able to give us information on a question which is of growing interest in this country, and in the discussion of which our Parliament is at present engaged. To all these subjects you will bring not only profound knowledge, but a desire, I am sure, to exchange information which must be of advantage to all who take part in your discussions. Let me, in conclusion, once more welcome you on behalf of the Sovereign, the railway companies, and myself, and express the earnest hope that this congress may be the means not only of extending scientific and technical knowledge, but of founding also many pleasant and enduring friendships, which will be valued in years to come. (Cheers.)"

***

BEFORE the dissolution, a Bill to reform the inebriate, called the Inebriates Bill, was, on the 21st June, in the House of Commons, read a second time. It is intended to detain in reformatories habitual drunkards who commit or not any breach of the criminal law. The County Court, subject to appeal to the High Court, and the High Court without a jury are proposed to be empowered to order detention up to two years of a person proved to be inebriate and administration of his affairs by another person. Lord Halsbury characterized the proposal regarding non-criminal drunkards as a suspension of the Habeas Corpus Act. Lord Salisbury opposed the provision saying that it opened the door to false accusation and to blackmailing, and withdrew from a person who was not even charged with a crime the protection of a jury. The Lord Chancellor expressed his willingness to meet as far as possible the objections raised.

***

THE first meeting of the Royal Commission on Indian Expenditure was held on June 26, Lord Welby presiding. After some preliminary business, the Commission adjourned till after the General Election.

***

BY a revised notification of the Director of Public Instruction, Bengal, candidates for the Matriculation Examination of the London University, to be held in Calcutta on the 13th January 1896, are required to apply to him before the 30th September 1895.

In Madras they are trying for the examination of the degree of Doctor of Laws of the London University for Indian candidates to be held in Madras.

***

THE next or the Fourth Criminal Sessions of the Calcutta High Court will commence on Monday, the 26th August.

***

MR. R. N. Ray, Deputy Accountant-General, Bengal, officiates as Deputy Comptroller-General, *vice* Mr. G. R. H. Hart.

***

THE District Board of Burdwan advertises for applications for permission to construct a broad-guage railway on the existing metalled district road from Burdwan to Katwa, a length of 35 miles.

* "However difficult to be credited, it seems to be ascertained beyond doubt, that the same pair which quitted their nest and the limited circle of their residence here, return to the very same nest again, and this for several successive years. in all probability for their whole lives."—*Griffith's* Cuvier.

THE Administration Report on the Railways in India for 1894-95 commences with the following information :—

"The total length of railways open and sanctioned on the 31st March 1895, after allowing for minor corrections of mileage, was 21,072¾ miles, being a net increase of 650¼ miles during the year. The total length of railways open for traffic on the same date was 18,855¼ miles being a net increase of 355¼ miles, leaving 2,217½ miles still under construction or sanctioned for commencement.

The mean mileage worked during the calendar year was 18,694 miles, being an increase of 487 miles over the figures of the previous year.

The total capital outlay on railways open for traffic to the 31st December 1894 amounted to Rs 237·79 crores, being an increase of Rs. 4·61 crores during the year.

The gross earnings in 1894 amounted to Rs. 25,50,88,564 being an increase of Rs. 1,42,13,096 over the results of the previous year; the working expenses amounted to Rs. 11,98,39,200, and absorbed 46·98 per cent. of the gross earnings against 47·14 per cent in 1893. The net earnings amounted to Rs. 13,52,49,304, being an increase of Rs. 79,21,955

The statistical return on the capital expenditure, as entered in rupees in the books in India, was 5·69 per cent. against 5·46 per cent. in the previous year."

* *

MR. E. M. Lewis having retired, Mr. J. Petty, Deputy Superintendent, Presidency Jail Press, has, from the commencement of this month, been appointed Superintendent of Printing, Bengal. Mr. J. M. Chalmers succeeds Mr. Petty in the Presidency Jail Press.

* *

MR. John Croft having paid the fine of Rs. 800 imposed upon him under the Excise Act, proceedings have been instituted against him, as suggested in *Capital*, under the Merchandise Marks Act and the Penal Code.

* *

THE Afridis of the Khyber have kept faith with the British and with themselves. They have delivered back the rifles belonging to the Afridi deserters of the 20th Punjab Infantry during the Waziri Expedition, but would not surrender the offenders.

NOTES & LEADERETTES,

OUR OWN NEWS,

&

THE WEEK'S TELEGRAMS IN BRIEF, WITH OCCASIONAL COMMENTS.

THE Parliamentary General Election is still proceeding. The latest returns show that 304 Unionists have been elected. The Unionist gains at present are 65. Seventy-three Liberals have been elected: Liberal gains ten.

	Elected.	Gains.
Unionists ..	304	65
Liberals ..	73	10

Six Parnellites and 37 Anti-Parnellites have been returned. Mr. W. C. Bonnerjee has not succeeded. Mr. Dadabhai Naoroji has been unseated for Central Finsbury. If Barrow would not accept a Radical Bonnerjee, Bethnal Green (North East) has elected Mr. Banagri, Unionist. He has been returned at the head of the poll by a majority of hundred and sixty. He was greatly aided by Lord Harris and Sir Roper Lethbridge. The latter addressed a mass meeting of the electors. Mr. Shaw Lefevre, Mr. Caine and Mr. W. L. Bright have been defeated. Mr. H. M. Stanley, the explorer, has been returned for Lambeth. Mr. Kier Hardie has been unseated for West Ham (South). Mr. C. M. Warmington, Liberal candidate for West Monmouth, has retired in favour of Sir W. V. Harcourt. Mr. Arnold Morley, Liberal, has been unseated for East Nottingham, as also Mr. John Morley, Liberal, for Newcastle-on-Tyne.

THE Bulgarian Government has reinforced the troops on the Macedonian frontier. This and other measures adopted by the Government to repress the Macedonian agitation are only increasing the ferment.

TURKEY has given back to Bulgaria a portion of territory in the Rhodope Mountains which was ceded to Turkey in 1886.

THE Khedive has gone to Constantinople on a visit to the Sultan.

COLONEL Leontuff, who recently returned from the mission to Abyssinia, the object of which was to bring the Russian and Abyssinian churches more closely together, is organizing a fresh and larger mission to that country, which will include an official representative of the Holy Synod.

A DESPERATE attempt was made, at Sofia, on the life of Mr. Stambouloff, whose carriage was stopped by three assassins. They shot and stabbed him, almost severing both his hands, which were afterwards amputated. He has since died. One of the assailants has been arrested.

MR. Cowasjee Jehangir was yesterday installed as a Knight Bachelor at Windsor Castle. Sir Cowasjee is the first native of India who has had the honour of being knighted by the Queen's own hands.

A RECEPTION held by Nasrulla Khan at Dorchester House was a most brilliant affair. Their Royal Highnesses the Prince of Wales, the Dukes of York and Cambridge, besides sixteen other Royalties and the members of the corps diplomatique, were present. Fifteen hundred guests attended the reception.

THE resignation of the Rosebery ministry and the General Election have been in the way of the final orders as regards Chitral. General Low has just been officially informed that Her Majesty's Government require time to decide on the details of the permanent settlement of that country, and that, as the present season is unfavourable for the movement of large bodies of troops, the force occupying Chitral and Dir road cannot be withdrawn before September at all events. The prospect is dismal for the Indian Treasury.

The Chitral honours and rewards have, however, not been further delayed:

To be K. C. S. I.—Surgeon-Major Robertson.

To be Companions of the Bath.—Lieutenant-Colonel Kelly and Captain Townshend.

The D. S. O. is conferred on Captain H. Borradile and Lieutenants H. Jones, S. Edwardes, J. Fowler, B. Gurdon, W. Beynon, C. Stewart, and H. Harley.

Brevet-Majority is conferred on Captains C. Campbell, H. Borradaile, and C. Townshend.

Lieutenant-Colonel Kelly is appointed A. D. C. to the Queen, with the Brevet rank of Colonel in the Army.

The Victoria Cross is conferred on Surgeon-Captain Whitchurch.

Sergeant Reeves, of the Commissariat Department, is promoted to be Sub-Conductor for his good services under Colonel Kelly.

Subadar Gurmukh Singh, 14th Sikhs, is granted the Order of Merit 2nd class, and the title of Bahadur for services during the defence of Chitral.

Fourteen non-commissioned officers and men of the 14th Bengal Infantry are granted the Order of Merit, of the 3rd class, for their gallantry at Koragh on the 10th of March, and on two Bengal Sappers and a man in the 2nd Bombay Grenadiers and the 14th Kashmir Rifles for their gallantry at Reshun. The same honour has also been conferred on Colonel Jagat Singh and 29 men for their gallantry in defending Chitral, and on eight of Colonel Kelly's men.

Hospital Assistant Narinjan Das, of the 32nd B. I., is promoted to be Hospital Assistant, first class, and three months' pay is granted to three Bhisties on duty in the Chitral Fort.

THE reports about Umra Khan are conflicting. Once he is a close prisoner at Kabul. Then a guest of the Amir. The latest trustworthy news is that he is only a refugee in the Afghan country.

SIR Antony MacDonnell is expected at Allahabad in the third week of October to take over charge of the Lieutenant-Governorship of the United Provinces from Mr. Alan Cadell.

DEAFNESS. An essay describing a really genuine Cure for Deafness, Singing in Ears, &c., on matter how severe or long-standing, will be sent post free.—Artificial Ear-drums and similar appliances entirely superseded. Address THOMAS KEMPE, VICTORIA CHAMBERS, 19, SOUTHAMPTON BUILDINGS, HOLBORN, LONDON.

SIR Steuart Bayley had abandoned the rule of these Provinces to be the Political and Secret Secretary in the India Office. He was wiser than those who had condemned him for the descent. His choice has been rewarded and he is now a member of the Council of the Secretary of State for India. He is to be succeeded as Secretary by Mr. Lee-Warner. That Political, it is said, will not complete his twenty-one years of actual service qualifying for pension until September 16. The rule must, therefore, be relaxed in his favour or the appointment kept open for him. But why should the India Office be a preserve for pensioners? The Royal Commission on India might well direct its attention to that quarter.

A PARLIAMENTARY return gives the circumstances under which certain English Civil servants have not been forced to retire on attaining the prescribed limit of sixty-five years.

"Under the Treasury Minute of April 1892 it is set forth that there are three main grounds upon which the retirement of an officer at sixty-five might be detrimental to the interests of the public service, these being as follows:—(1) When the number of officers in a department above the prescribed age is such that their simultaneous removal would cause grave inconvenience; (2) when an officer possesses peculiar qualifications which are essential to the performance of the duties of his office, and which it would be difficult to replace by a fresh appointment; (3) where an officer has been entrusted with the execution of a particular duty which is approaching completion, and it is found that the transfer of the work to another officer who is necessarily less familiar with it would be attended with inconvenience. The return gives, under Class II. (Class I. being nil), the names of eight officers who were retained over the age of sixty-five in the year 1894-95. Under Class III seven names are given."

Would the British Museum and the India Office were as considerate! They would then still have Dr. Rieu and Dr. Rost. Both were truly irreplaceable. There is not another Arabic and Persian scholar living in England equal to Dr. Rieu. He has, however, been provided for. The Cambridge University altered its statutes to employ him. If Dr. Rost's successor were half as clever or accomplished as he, there might be some reason for enforcement of the Treasury minute. Dr. Rost has, since his retirement, been utilized as a literary hack only to be cast away sick and heart-broken.

MAHARAJA Narendra Krishna, Raja Rajendra Narayan Deb, Sir Romesh Chander Mitter and Babus Nobin Chand Dutt, of the Hatkhola Dutt Family, Pashupati Nath Bose, Municipal Commissioner, Guruprassanno and Romanath Ghose, of the Ghoses of Pathuriaghatta and Jorabagan, have called a meeting of the Kyastha community of Calcutta and its suburbs to consider the growing custom of demanding high dowers from the parents of brides. The meeting takes place at four in the afternoon of Sunday next, at 47, Pathuriaghatta Street, the residence of the late Baboo Khelachcnander Ghose. Government had been applied to to find a remedy for the evil. Sir Charles Elliott, however, thinks that the reform should proceed from the community itself. The present movement is commendable and we hope will bear fruit.

IN 1874, the Punjab Chief Court in Full Bench had decided that a barrister was debarred from suing for his fees. It still adheres to that opinion. Mr. Arthur Grey sued Dewan Lachman Das, late Prime Minister of Kashmir, for Rs 2,391 14. The sum is the balance of a claim for service done as attorney to the Dewan's mother. There are no attorneys at Lahore and counsel, like pleaders, take their instructions from clients direct. The suit was opposed, among others, on the ground on which it has been thrown out. Two Courts having held the claim unmaintainable, there was an appeal to the Chief Court. The Judges were divided. Justices Frizelle, Stogdon and Chatterjee stuck to the traditions of the bar and held that the plaintiff as a barrister-at-law was incapacitated from making a contract of hiring. Justices Roe and Rivaz were of a different mind. The latter says —

"An advocate's fees in the Punjab, when all legal fictions have been brushed away, are distinctly *merces* and not *honoraria*. The leading advocates of the Punjab Bar (an influential and honourable body) must bargain for their remuneration directly with their clients, and by a universal custom, which is not considered unprofessional in this Province, must even be content to allow a certain portion of their fees to depend upon the result of the litigation. In this respect, and in most others, the advocate is on exactly the same footing as the pleader. An advocate in this Province has the right of pre-audience over a pleader of older standing, and each makes his arrangement direct with his client. Each conducts his clients' cases in Court with the same powers and privileges."

A barrister is a barrister always. He may sink himself into an attorney, yet he does not cease to be a barrister. He may charge anything for his services, but he must not complain of non-payment. Each to his own, seems to be the verdict of the majority of the Punjab Judges. To the many privileges of a barrister, they will not add a right enjoyable by a pleader.

WE read:—

"It is not often that fondness for a pet creature leads its possessor to such earnest efforts to save its life, as that which was recently adopted in an educational establishment in Bombay. A cygnet belonging to a lady in the Fort accidentally swallowed some poison put down for vermin, and was discovered in a state of collapse. The owner at once sent for a European doctor, asking him to bring an air-pump and chloroform. Meanwhile, in order to save time, the distressed lady sent to a chemist's shop close by, for an emetic, which was duly administered, but without avail, and when the doctor arrived he found he was too late to save his singular patient. This is not all—the loss of the bird was so severely felt that it was buried, with due ceremony, and in the presence of a number of young people, in the compound of an ecclesiastical building."

Is the incident so unnatural? A bird in confinement, affording delight to its owner, is as much an object of sympathetic treatment and kind consideration as any human inmate of a household. Lower animated Nature not unoften affords examples to the lord of creation. Leaving aside the extravagance of costly marriages of dogs and donkeys, affection for animals and birds is worthy of all praise. If human nature were always as kind, man would never be the brute that he sometimes proves. We can well imagine that it was no vanity but a true humanity that was so anxious for the caged bird and that gave it an affectionate burial.

ON Wednesday Mr. Ananda Mohan Bose, Barrister-at-Law, was gazetted a member of the Lieutenant-Governor's Legislative Council. On the previous Saturday Mr. Bose had taken his seat.

There is a hitch as to the appointment of Baboo Ishan Chunder Mitter. No objection was taken by the defeated candidate for election for the Burdwan Division. Government seems not disposed to accept the recommendation without scrutiny.

The Dacca Division has been permitted to hold a second election.

BRIGADE-SURGEON John Martin Coates, M.D., late Bengal Medical Department, is dead. He was carried away by cholera which is traced to milk in the neighbourhood of the New Market. He was given no military burial, for he had wished, unsophisticated as he was, a plain interment. His first commission was dated as early as 1855. In December of the next year he received medical charge of the 1st Bengal military police battalion. Three years after, in April, 1859, we find him Civil Assistant Surgeon. Next, successively, he was Superintendent of Jails, Hazaribagh, Civil Surgeon, Murshidabad, in joint medical charge, Simla, and in charge of Commander-in-Chief's staff, Sanitary Commissioner for Bengal, Principal and Professor of Medicine, Medical College, Calcutta, and *ex-officio* 1st Physician to the College Hospital, Inspector-General of Jails, Surgeon-General, Bengal. On his retirement from service in July 1890, he did not leave India, but continued here chiefly as Physician to Maharaja Sir Luchmeswar Sing of Durbhanga. He had a jovial spirit and kindly disposition which endeared him to his pupils and patients. He was more a friend than a physician. No grave M. D., but Nature's graduate, he

Won back more sufferers with *his* voice and smile,
Than all the trumpery in the druggist's pile.

At a time when the Faculty fell out with Government on the question of hospital reform, that is, reduction of expenditure on hospitals, when Dr. Chevers stoutly opposed any innovation, when Dr. Smith left the Principalship of the Medical College not to be a party to the policy of Dr. Payne, and no body would accept the office, Dr. Coates came forward and rescued Government from a perilous situation. Charged with carrying out a policy of stern economy, he found it his duty to recommend payment of fees by students of the Medical College who, after completing their terms, had failed to pass the final examination. He was, unlike himself, severe in his remarks on the petition of the students for exemption.

At the same time, he felt strongly for the Assistant Surgeons who were dismissed the service for refusing to submit to a second examination ordered by Dr. Hilson, on suspicion of foul play at the first. He had himself superintended the examination and knew the suspicion

had no foundation and was thus enabled to fight hard for them. But to no purpose. He was, as we have seen, differently formed from Drs. Chevers and Smith, his predecessors in the Medical College, or from Dr. Ewart, and, while feeling the injustice to the Assistant Surgeons and to himself, bore the slight in silence.

THE Superintending Engineer to the Nizam's Dominions—Babu Madhusudan Chatterjee, C. E, has been retired on good service pension. Passed out of the Roorkee College, he was a District Engineer under the British Government when his services, at the request of Sir Salar Jung I., were transferred to Hyderabad, where he commenced as Principal of the Hyderabad Civil Engineering College on a salary of Rs. 700. On the abolition of the College, he was appointed Superintending Engineer of the P. W. D., on Rs. 1,000 a month. The pay was subsequently raised to Rs. 1200. His services at Hyderabad extend over 23 years, short by some months to entitle him to half pension. Mr. Chatterjee is of a quiet, unobtruding nature. Mindful of his own duties, he advoided Hyderabad politics. If he thus kept himself clear of troubled waters, he must not complain of his devotion to work not having been adequately rewarded. It is something, though, that his son, Babu Kali Charn, has been provided with an appointment

AFTER half a century of service, the Permanent Assistant Private Secretary to the Viceroy, Mr. D. Pamoty, has been removed by death. He was never sick or sorry, and had kept his health remarkably well The death was sudden. He sickened and died at Simla while bathing. Although no East Indian Worthy, the Eurasian community might well be proud of him. The success of his life was visible even in death At the funeral, the Viceroy, the Lieutenant-Governor and the Commander-in-Chief were represented. Mr. Pamoty joined the office of the Private Secretary on a small pay when Lord Dalhousie was Governor-General. Previously he was in the Bengal Office where he had his training. Like most members of his community in the upper clerical service of Government, he had no education to speak of. He made up as he went on, till he could keep a promiscuous company engaged by his conversation. He was in charge of the most important and responsible office in India for many years. During this long period he managed it wonderfully well. Never did a secret ooze out, although it was full of secrets of a very important nature regarding finance, war, deposition of princes and reform of administration. His office was always above suspicion and never shared the obloquy of any of the offices of the Government of India or of the local Secretariat. There were no placards of "No admittance" or "Warning to Government clerks" in his office rooms, yet not a scrap of information ever got out regarding the deposition of Mulhar Rao, the deportation of Thebaw, the imposition of income tax, or the abolition of jury trial.

Mr. Pamoty had his weaknesses. He was fond of flattery and had his favourites. Merit to him was a secondary consideration He would rule his subordinates with an iron hand, taking all their sins upon himself. If he prote cted them from the wrath of his superiors, he was unmindful of their wants and sufferings of his own creation. The 55 years' rule was never meant for him. But one of his ablest assistants was retired, on inadequate pension, before his time, and another highly competent man under him had sent up his papers in disgust.

But for his caste, the late Assistant Private Secretary, who had the confidence and high opinion of two Governors-General and ten Viceroys and their Private Secretaries, he would have earned higher distinctions than a C. I. E. which also came late. It was not till the Viceroyalty of Lord Ripon that he was thought worthy of that honour. The distinction that he had valued higher was the privilege of being admitted to State Dinners. He was, therefore, more thankful to Colonel Ardagh than to Mr. Primrose. Sir Donald Mackenzie Wallace was exceptionally kind to him. He made a very favourable bargain for him in the matter of the location of the Private Secretary's Office.

Mr. F. W. Latimer is carrying on the duties of the Assistant Private Secretary, and it is hoped he will be permanently appointed. He was brought out by Lord Mayo and has been improving ever since. He has gained experience and, besides knowledge of the working of the office, has sympathy with the subordinates.

THE annual meeting of the Indian Association for the Cultivation of Science will be held on Monday after next, the 29th, at 5-30 in the afternoon. The Lieutenant-Governor, the President, will take the chair. As this will be Sir Charles Elliott's last appearance at the Association, it is expected the members will muster in force

REIS & RAYYET.

Saturday, July 20, 1895.

MARRIAGE DOWER IN BENGAL.

IN almost every civilised country, marital unions are the result of girls and their kinsmen being solicited by youths and their relatives and friends. Young men, when they reach a certain age and become desirous of settling in domesticity, look for a wife among the girls of their acquaintance. Kinsmen and relatives interfere, and the terms, which in most cases are few and simple, being settled, the parties are united as man and wife. In India, however, from remote antiquity, marriages have been effected in a different way. Here it is the kinsmen of the girl that have been burthened with the duty of finding a proper mate for her. Women are not made to woo, they should be wooed and won—has no application in India. In four out of the eight forms of marriage mentioned by the early sages, the girl's guardians are wooers. By far the majority of unions are based on those forms. Three out of the remaining four, *viz.*, *Gándharva*, *Rákshasa*, and *Paisácha*, have long since been obsolete, the last two in special having become even criminal under the penal code current in the country, for nobody can now wed with impunity a girl abducted from the custody of her guardians or obtaining her consent by fraud. The other form, *viz.*, *Asura*, in which the girl is purchased for price from her parents or kinsmen, deserves to be put down. This form of marriage has always been current among the lower orders. The Hindu lawgivers directed their censures against it, but they failed to suppress it. So long as girls have a marketable value, their kinsmen exact it without at all caring for the religious injunctions to the contrary.

The Indian Association for the Cultivation of Science.

210, Bow-Bazar Street, Calcutta

(Session 1895-99)

Lecture by Babu Ram Chandra Datta, F.C.S., on Monday, the 22nd inst., at 4-15 P M *Subject:* Bromine, Iodine and Fluorine

Lecture by Dr Nilratan Sarkar, M A, M D, on Monday, the 22nd inst., at 6 to 8 P. M. *Subjects*. Practical Zoology—The Fowl. Zoology—Coelenterata.

Lecture by Dr. D. N. Chatterjee, B A, M B, C. M, on Tuesday, the 23rd inst, at 6 to 8 P. M. *Subjects*. Histology—Connective Tissue. Physiology—Respiration.

Lecture by Babu Ram Chandra Datta, F C S, Wednesday, the 24th inst., at 4-15 P M *Subject:* Carbon and is Compounds with Oxygen.

Lecture by Babu Rajendra Nath Chatterjee, M.A, on Wednesday, the 24th inst., at 7 P M. *Subject:* Archimedes' Principle and methods of determining specific gravity

Lecture by Babu Ram Chandra Datta, F C S, Friday, the 26th inst. at 4-15 P. M. *Subject*: Sulphur and Sulphuretted Hydrogen.

Lecture by Dr. Nilratan Sarkar, M A., M D., Friday, the 26th inst, at 6 to 7 P. M. *Subject*: Chemical Physiology—Milk.

Admission Fee, Rs. 4 for Physics, and Rs. 4 for Chemistry; Rs. 6 for both Physics and Chemistry; Rs. 4 for Physiology; Rs. 4 for General Biology; Rs. 6 for complete course of Physiology and Biology. The charge for a single lecture is 2 Annas.

MAHENDRA LAL SIRCAR, M.D.,

July 20, 1895. *Honorary Secretary.*

The custom of exacting high dowers from the girl's side is confined to the higher classes of society. Speaking of Bengal, it prevails among only Kulin Brahmans and high-born or well-to-do Kayasthas in general. The origin of the practice is not difficult to explain. The daughter, according to the ancient Hindu idea, is looked upon as a chattel. The obligation of marrying her to an eligible bridegroom was cast upon the father by the early sages. Failure to marry her properly was declared to be a sin demanding expiation. The Aryan settlers in India were at first few. Vast tracts of country, with a soil highly fertile, were in the hands of the aboriginal inhabitants. How to multiply, how to increase their number, was with them a question of the greatest importance. Polygamy was sanctioned at a very early age. The Brahmans were allowed to take wives from all the four orders, though in later times the acceptance of Sudra wives was looked upon with disfavour. The Kshatriyas could accept wives from the two orders below them besides their own. The Vaisyas, besides marrying in their own order, were free to choose Sudra wives. The Sudras were limited to their own order. The evidence is not clear of the early sages having sanctioned the re-marriage of widows. Neither the Mahabharata nor the Ramayana throws any light on the question. If the re-marriage of widows was ever prevalent in India in ancient times, it must have been among the lower orders. So far as the higher orders were concerned, they were unaffected by it. For all that, the custom of raising offspring by vicarious means, was certainly in vogue even among the three higher orders. The husband's younger brothers often acted as substitutes if the husband happened to be absent, or if he died without children. The object the Rishis had in view was certainly the increase of population. Men bent upon multiplying their number were naturally disposed to make marriage an obligatory act. Of the four modes of life, *viz.*, pupilage, domesticity, residence in the forest, and complete renunciation, domesticity or the status of a householder was applauded very highly. All the other modes were dependant on it. Every youth, completing his study, was directed to marry and become a householder. He was not to become a forest recluse until he had begotten children. He that dies without having begotten a child goes to an unmentionable place reserved for the childless. His debt to his progenitors remains unpaid. The latter fall down from their high status in consequence of such neglect or omission on the part of their descendant. Besides being a purificatory act for members of the male sex, marriage was declared to be doubly obligatory for the female sex. Women have no vows to observe, no religious rites to perform, except as wives and in the company of their husbands. The Rishis pronounced fasts as highly meritorious. Unto women having husbands, fasts were, however, not allowed.

Jivadbhartari yá nári uposya vratamdcharet,
Á'yuh samharate bhartuh sá nári narakam vrajet,

was the declaration of Atri and, after him, of almost every sage regarded as an authority. The sense is that the woman who, having a husband, observes a vow with fasts, lessens the life of her husband and, departing this life, is plunged into misery. The Hindu idea of marriage is the union of two persons into one for the acquisition of religious merit. A male person, by himself, may acquire merit, but the merit that he can thus acquire is nothing to what he can earn along with his wife. For a person of the female sex, the only way open for the acquisition of merit is marriage, for she can do nothing when dissociated from her husband. The obligation of marrying is one from which the very denizens of heaven could not be free. The gods could not exist without their goddesses.

Among a people by whom the institution of marriage was viewed in such a light, the disposal of daughters in marriage naturally came to be regarded as an unavoidable duty. It is true that marriage being an obligatory act, men were as much bound to look for wives as women for husbands, but in a country where plurality of wives was not only allowed but was the general rule, parents would naturally be more concerned with comfortably settling their daughters than their male children. The practice of early marriage also, which necessitated the interference of parents and kinsmen, had much to do with the greater solicitude manifested by the kinsmen of marriageable daughters. The kinsmen of male children, even when the latter attain to a marriageable age, lose nothing by postponing the union. Not so the kinsmen of girls. These, if the scriptures are to be followed, must be married before they attain to a certain state. The rule is a very old one. They who were responsible for laying it down must have been impelled by the desire of multiplying the population. Other circumstances came in to give force to the scriptural injunction. The complete affiliation of the girl in the family of her husband was looked upon as one of the ends of marriage. This affiliation, it was felt, would be easy if the girl married were of tender years. A grown up girl, with her habits formed, cannot be easily broken into the ways of her new home. The joint family is another ancient institution of India which has exercised a potent influence in this direction. Desirous probably of preventing ante-nuptial scandal of any kind, heads of large families numbering cousins and collateral descendants by the dozen, would naturally like to dispose of the daughters as early as possible.

Apart from these reasons founded on considerations connected with both the Hindu scriptures and the peculiar circumstances of Aryan society, so far as Bengal is concerned, the institution of Kulinism, founded by Ballal Sen, has much to do with the greater solicitude manifested, in the matter of marriage, by the kinsmen of girls than those of male children. Adisur, believed to have been the founder of the Sen dynasty of kings, noticed the degeneracy of the Brahmans of his kingdom. He was obliged to import a number of pure and learned Brahmans from the North-West. These soon multiplied under the fostering care of that monarch and his descendants. One of the latter, Ballal Sen, wishing to prevent their degeneracy, classed them as Kulins and Srotriyas. It was a purely sacerdotal and not a social aristocracy that Ballal sought to create. Vedic learning was the qualification that entitled one to become a Kulin. In course of time, however, the institution of Kulinism degenerated. That which was intended to be a sacerdotal aristocracy—an aristocracy of learning and good conduct—became a social aristocracy—an aristocracy of birth and blood. The maintenance of its purity came to be associated with marriage, for birth and blood are directly dependant on it. Parents of girls became solicitous of preserving the purity of their own clans

by marrying their daughters into proper families. No wonder that eligible youths soon became rare commodities. For all that, large prices were seldom demanded for the acceptance of daughters. Only polygamy became the natural result of degenerated Kulinism. The present custom of demanding large dowers for daughters is of very recent origin. Although prevailing only among Kulin Brahmans and higher class Kayasthas, and some other castes, notably the Subarnavaniks, it has nothing to do in reality with the institution of Kulinism. The practice is of very recent origin. Only fifty years back, a Srotriya Brahman could bestow his daughter on a Kulin youth without undergoing any expense. A Kulin father also could marry his daughter without much ado. Then, again, the girl's guardians had no objection to the youth of their choice taking more than one wife. Nor were they solicitous of the girl being taken away from the parental home after marriage. It was only when the difference was very great between the social status of the two families that the bridegroom's family could demand a fair compensation. The *Savarna* Chowdhuries of Barisha, the Gossains of Khurdaha, and a few other families among the Rarhiya section of the Bengal Brahmans, and the Kafs among the Barendras, were obliged to give large dowers for the luxury of marrying their daughters to Kulin youths. We say luxury, for it was by no means obligatory with any of them to contract marriage alliances with Kulin families.

The origin of the custom of payment of heavy dowers, recent as it undoubtedly is, should be sought for in other directions. Formerly, parents of girls, however solicitous of marrying them, never looked for so many accomplishments in the youths of their choice as now. They were content with only birth and blood. Every family had a few paternal acres upon which to live. The love of luxury was not general. The wants of men were few and a little could satisfy these. In course of the last half century society has changed and is changing. Love of luxury has become general. Wants have multiplied. Money is needed to meet them. A variety of accomplishments is expected in a bridegroom. Over birth and blood he must have property or the means of good living. Themselves living in good houses, the guardians of girls are unwilling to send them to thatched or tiled cottages. They are, again, naturally unwilling to secure them the position of only a co-wife. They wish their daughters to be taken away from their houses into the families of their husbands. If poor, the youths must have at least a fair education, which, it is believed, will enable them to earn the means of comfortable sustenance. An eligible youth,—eligible according to the present standard,—is sought simultaneously by more than one person. There is keen competition in the matrimonial market. There has also been an excess of girls over boys. All this has naturally raised the price of marriageable youths. Brahmans and Kyasthas who constitute the higher classes of Bengal society are, again, imitated by the other castes.

We, therefore, despair of a remedy for the disease. Public meetings and resolutions condemning the practice, would be of little avail. Our habits have become expensive in every direction. The clothes that clad our fathers, the houses that sheltered them, the food and drink that nourished them, can no longer content us. So many ornaments of gold and silver have come into fashion that our grandmothers, if they came back to life, would contemplate them with gaping eyes. We have outlived that stage of our national life when wants were few and could be gratified with little labour. The marriage expenses have necessarily increased. The revolution in tastes is responsible for the evil.

Yet a reform is wanted, for we must marry our daughters. Unless we can devise a method, there is every prospect of Shastric injunctions being over-ridden. Then, again, a danger of alarming magnitude threatens us in another direction. Already, in certain families, the death of an unmarried daughter is not looked upon as a calamity. Parents may feel the loss keenly. Still society looks upon it as rather a relief to the father.

THE MAHARRAM.

THE display of sorrow on the anniversary of the death of the grandsons of Mahomed is over, but it was not entirely unattended with disturbance. The first friction occurred at Bhagalpur, where they had long been preparing for it. On the 14th of April an *alam* was taken out in procession by Syed Irtaza Hossein, a Zemindar. It had been prohibited in previous years, but the prohibition has been removed. The closing reign in Bengal is disposed to relax its stern discipline as regards Bhagalpur. Thus:

From—H. J. S. Cotton, Esq., C. S. I.,
Chief Secry. to the Govt of Bengal,

To—The Commissioner of the Bhagalpur Division.

Calcutta, the 27th March, 1895.

Sir,—I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 364J dated 26th January 1895, reporting on the prayer of the Shia Mahomedans of Bhagalpur to be allowed to carry out the Alam with tir, mussuk and tulwar during the Moharram celebration.

2. In reply I am to observe that the facts of the case at Bhagalpur are not altogether analogous to those of Gya and Chupra in which the decision of Government, prohibiting the procession, was based on the principle of declining to allow any innovation in the existing practice. In Bhagalpur, it appears that the memorialists, Syuds Irtaza Hossein and Murtaza Hossein, have actually been in the habit for many years of taking out the procession with the Shia symbols, but in such a way as not to attract attention or give offence and that, if this practice had been adhered to nothing probably would have been heard of the matter. The question seems to have been stirred up in 1892 by one Mirza Mahomed Sayed, of the Oudh family, who had intermarried with the Shias of Bhagalpur and who made attempts to conduct the procession for the first time with pomp and ceremony through the heart of the town. In consequence, objection was taken by the Sunnis and the Magistrate, Mr. Coxe, prohibited the procession. The proposed procession, which was a pure innovation, appears to have been the cause of all the present trouble to the memorialists. The Lieutenant-Governor considers, that in the circumstance, it was rightly prohibited, but that there can be no objection to the memorialists following their old custom and conducting their procession in a quiet manner as they are said to have done in former times from Irtaza Hossein's house to the Shahjingi tank, provided they undertake to abstain from the utterance of "tabarra." This route is believed to be thinly peopled and no breach of the peace ever occurred in respect of processions along it in the past. It is not expected that the adoption of this route will excite any disturbance in the future, but the Magistrate will of course adopt such precautions to maintain the peace as may appear to be necessary.

3. I am requested that these orders may be communicated to the memorialists in reply to their petition.

I have, &c.,
H. J. S. COTTON,
Chief Secry. to the Govt. of Bengal.

The *alam* was, as was to be expected, taken out with great pomp. The Police had anticipated a fight and was prepared for it. A number of Sunnis had collected to disturb the procession and one Shia

who was sent out to reconnoitre the route was severely beaten. The next day, the dead body of an old Sunni was discovered in a well in the garden fronting the Syed's residence and reported by him. The poor man had been taken to work in the Emambara on the *alam* eve and was not seen alive afterwards. The Shias attribute the death to the Sunnis, who, they say, meant to bring them to trouble and spite the Government order. The Sunnis, in their turn, believe that the Shias murdered the man in fulfilment of a vow on renewal of permission for the procession. The death is still a mystery. The only visible action of the Police was to warn the leading Sunni gentlemen of the city to keep the peace during the Maharram.

In Calcutta, there was a free fight between the taziawallas of Messrs. Cook & Co., and the Police. In consequence, the license was withdrawn for the last day.

The *alam* and the *tazia* processions have become an institution of this city. On the seventh day of the Maharram, the *alam* of Mirza Mehdi proceeds through Colootola, Bowbazar and Lal Bazar Streets. The day after, Haji Agha Kerbalai's *alam* passes along the same route. Horses representing the dead warriors and some of the Shia symbols excepting *tir* and *mussuk* are paraded. The eighth day procession is numerously attended by men of all religions and sects, Sunnis, Marwaris, Jains, Khettris, Bengalis. A spirit of religious tolerance and amity marks the scene. On the tenth day the two combined march through Lal Bazar and Bowbazar Streets and Upper Circular Road to Haji Kerbalai's garden. This year a new *alam* was seen to emerge from Anthonybagan Lane. It was owned by Syed Mahomed Taha, employed in the railway office. On the tenth day, the horse just in front of the coffin of Imam Hossein seemed to be pierced with arrows and the cloth covering the animal was coloured red. This feature was not observable on the seventh or the eighth day. The three *alams* had one horse each of this variety. The *tazias* followed the *alams* generally and they were dropped into the Kerbala tank at Manicktola. The Kerbala, a little room, was crowded with men and women. The only accident was that of a boy of ten being drowned.

From the Sealda corner to Manicktola, the two sides of the street were crowded with temporary shops vending different articles, the eastern being a continuous range to Kerbala. About twenty-five places were opened for selling pickles alone, and almost all the sellers returned home with empty jars, making a good profit. Everybody was busy buying one thing or another. Only pious Sunnis absented themselves, and if they happened to pass that way, they would not buy anything, for it was a mournful occasion and the shops would remind them of the bazaar established by the mother of Yezid, the murderer of Imam Hossein, to commemorate her son's success.

Such was the spectacle in Calcutta. In the suburban Metiaburuj, the exhibition is in its decline. They had their *medhi* on the seventh night which is unknown to the town proper. It is the preliminary ceremony of marriage between Kasem and his cousin Zobeyda, the daughter of Imam Hossein, in the field of Kufa. But what an unhappy end! The marriage is changed into a funeral. The bride, before night, has to cast her eyes on the coffin of the bridegroom. Instead of the auspicious *medhi* or *hena* his blood dyes her. This is the most pathetic of all the sorrowful events that occurred in the field of Kerbala. Want of water, to moisten parched lips, there was none; the children and the whole family were dying of thirst encamped in their tent. Still they fought and died. It was martyrdom, and for this finds an echo in the heart of every pious believer. The Mahomedans, almost all of them, observe these days with great and real sorrow. But the methods of manifestation differ. The Sunnis mourn in silence, while the Shias emphasise their feelings by symbols indicative of the events of those days. With all, however, the murder of the grandsons of the Prophet is equally painful.

INTERFERENCE WITH NATIVE STATES.

The question of how far we are justified in interfering with the internal administration of Native States is one about which there are various opinions. Some say that we should leave them severely alone, and allow them, so to speak, to stew in their own juice; others again say that the British Government should interfere in all cases of injustice; that the Resident at the Capital of an independent State should be the ultimate court of appeal; and that our responsibility for good government and justice is not merely confined to British India, but extends also to our protected and feudatory States. There is a good deal to be said for the latter argument; for it must be always borne in mind that since the introduction of the "Pax Britannica" we have taken away from the people the only and time honoured remedy of oriental nations against a despotic and oppressive government, *i. e.*, revolt and assassination. We act as the Police of India to keep the peace throughout the land, and this protection is of considerably greater benefit to the independent Princes than it is to the peoples under their sway. The result is that injustice is often committed and oppression is practised, against which the people have no remedy; because while we prevent them from indulging in any outburst of indignation we refuse to interfere in matters which concern the internal administration of an independent State. This word "independent" is a very misleading one. The condition of affairs at the end of this nineteenth century is very different from what it was at the commencement. A hundred years ago, the different native States were either our enemies or our allies. In the course of time the former have been conquered and the latter have fallen into the second rank of subordinate States. No one will for a moment pretend that in the case of a question of Imperial policy affecting the whole country, we should be justified in yielding to the wishes of one or more States merely because they claimed to be independent. In such a case their protests would not be regarded, and they would be compelled to conform with the Imperial policy, treaties and agreements notwithstanding. When the Queen became Empress of India, the whole condition of the relations between the Imperial Government and the Native States became changed. This being so, if we refuse to recognise the independence of the vassal States in a matter of Imperial policy, are we justified in refusing to interfere in matters of public Justice and good government in which the interests of the millions under their charge are concerned? The different States may have their own laws and customs and their own system of revenue, taxation and administration. These are all more or less founded upon civilized bases, and the people who reside in such States do so with their eyes open,—a remark especially applicable to strangers who of their own accord take up their domicile in such countries. But it is the administration and execution of those laws with which we have to do; for it depends upon the manner in which they are administered whether justice is done or injustice is committed.

The Queen-Empress being the over-lord of the States, I maintain that the subjects of a Native ruler have as much right to expect redress for injustice from the hands of her representatives as have her immediate subjects. But as long as we refuse to interfere in matters of internal administration, they are not always sure of receiving that justice, and are debarred from appealing to the British representative. The British Resident at a Native Court should be something more than passive. He should be the Guide, as well as the Philosopher and the Friend. As far as the States themselves are concerned, the policy I advocate is the kindest in the end. The stewing-in-their-own-juice policy, is calculated to lead, in the long run, to maladministration, which compels an interference of a far more active kind, if not actual annexation. In many of the minor States, such as some in Rajputana, this is what is practically done; but in the larger States this is not the case, and the outcry of "interference with an independent State" is apt to be raised,

whenever the Resident endeavours to advise it for its own good. This outcry generally proceeds not so much from the Princes themselves as from their officials, who, for the most part, have been borrowed from the British service, or who have immigrated from British Provinces. I by no means advocate a nagging and petty interference in matters of detail; but where the carrying out of the laws, or where justice is concerned, the subjects of a native State have, I maintain, as much a right to look to the representative of the Imperial Government for protection against misrule and oppression, as the Princes themselves are entitled to our protection from rebellion and anarchy.

—*The Imperial and Asiatic Quarterly Review.* EX-POLITICAL.

ELEPHANT LORE.

Elephants are a survival from an age incalculably remote, whose flora and fauna are known to us only in coal measures and fossil remains. In this prosaic century, when steam and electricity conspire to abridge toil and simplify mechanical contrivances, their vast, unwieldy forms seem altogether out of place. Their genesis and death alike are shrouded in mystery. For pairing they select forest depths unapproached by man. The Garos and Lushais, whose country swarms with elephants, declare that when one feels his end approaching, he betakes himself to some land beyond mortal ken. However frequent one's opportunities may be of watching their movements, it is impossible to be really familiar with them, or to avoid feeling that there is great gulf fixed between these pachyderms and the rest of creation. Babu Gyanendra Narain Ray Chaudhuri, a scion of a family well-known in the Rangpur district, has raised a corner of the veil which shrouds elephant-life, and his little book, at present available only in a Bengali garb, teems with quaintly-expressed facts, not unmixed with fancies, on this fascinating subject. The popular errors which cluster round the elephant would have enraged and disheartened Sir Thomas Browne. One relates to the period of gestation, which is commonly supposed to be 18 months. Two years would be nearer the mark. Another concerns the suckling of tiny specimens. Nine people out of ten imagine that a baby helps himself to his mother's milk with his trunk: the fact being that the mouth is used, as is the case with all warm-blooded animals. But it is a thankless task to combat ignorance. A good story on this point is to be found in one of the oriental text-books. Elephant dealers have quite as many tricks of trade as their confrères the horse-copers. At a certain Fair one of the confraternity was showing off a huge specimen to an intending buyer, and enlarging, as is the manner of his tribe, on its splendid points. While thus engaged, he observed a yokel gazing at the animal intently and then glancing alternately at the customer and himself. The dealer took him aside and slipped a brace of gold mohurs into his hand, whispering, "Don't you say anything about it and you shall have as much more after the sale!" The rustic nodded sagaciously, and held his peace. When the deal had been satisfactorily concluded, the vendor approached the supposed accomplice and said:—"Well, here's the rest of your money; but, tell me, how did you find out what was the matter with my elephant?" "I find anything out?" replied the young man from the country, carefully securing the "tip" in his waist-cloth, "I had never seen an elephant before, and was wondering what sort of a beast yours could be!" A newborn elephant is of a pinkish colour, which deepens with age into the familiar dusky hue. It is weaned at six months; but for the first 7 or 8 years of its life it remains *in statu pupillari*, following its mother with touching persistence and fed by her with the tenderest leaves that the jungle affords. The milk-teeth drop out in the fifteenth year, and are succeeded by the permanent molar dentition. The tusks are of slower growth, and are of vast importance in the animal's physiology. Indeed, they form the basis of the native system of classification.

Males are either (1) Dantals, (2) Ganeshes, (3) Makhnas. The first species includes all provided with tusks. It is subdivided into 6 categories. First and foremost is the Palanga Dantal, so called because in ancient days kings were wont to recline on a couch, *palang*, fastened to the well poised tusks of some favourite monster, which would march into a tank or river and give its master a bath by slowly ducking its head. The tusks in this sort are 3 to 4 feet in length, curving gently upwards. Next is the Surat Dantal, where massive tusks curve downwards. So rapid is their growth that, unless repeatedly sawn short, they touch the ground. The third is the Chokna Dantal, whose tusks are stumpy—never longer than 18 inches, and slope upwards. The fourth is the Mula Dantal, so named because its tusks taper like the common or garden radish. Fifth comes the Nala Dantal. *Nal* means "reed;" and the tusks of this kind are thin and scraggy. Lastly, we have the Akas Dantal, in which one tusk points upwards (*akasa* is the Sanskrit for Heaven), and the other to the nether region. Such beasts are regarded as inauspicious, and the more so when the tusks are a series of knobs, like misshapen billiard balls. The next great division, the Ganeshes, have but a single tusk on the right side, like the elephant-headed god of the Hindu Pantheon. They are regarded as peculiarly auspicious and have a value far above their deserts. Elephants with a solitary tusk on the left side are sometimes wrongly styled "Ganeshes." Their proper designation is Ekdanta, and they are of no great value. The third grand division of males, the Makhnas, are by a *lusus naturæ*, destitute of tusks or have but rudimentary ones. They are brave and hard-working; hence greatly appreciated in the hunting-field. In that sphere they possess the great advantage over tuskers of having no protuberances to become entangled in cane or creeper jungle. When very staunch, a Makhna commands a high price, but ordinary ones are of no great account. Apart from their want of an elephant's chief ornament, they have the credit of being sulky and not always to be trusted. Female elephants or *khunkies* are called Mevari if they are maidens, and Chui if they have given birth to young. Like Makhnas, they are only esteemed when staunch shikaris, and then command fancy prices. The age of an elephant has no relation to its colour, and it is a vulgar error to suppose that white or reddish spots on the head and trunk are an indication of antiquity. Until fifteen or thereabouts it has black toe nails; thereafter the nails grow gradually whiter. Up to thirty-five the upper portion of the ears is erect and firm, but as life advances it droops perceptibly. The degree of curvature of the back and depth of the hollows above the eyes enable experts to detect an aged animal.

The next point is the *size*, which appears to vary with the habitat. Those hailing from Nepal, Bhutan, and Sikkim are, like the ponies of those regions, thickset, hard-working and "confidential." Ninety per cent. are under eight feet, and nine are never exceeded. This species is usually hog-backed. In Bhutan elephants abound, and the Raja occasionally gives passes to trappers. The Nepal Durbar, on the other hand, discourages kheddah operations and turns imported animals loose to keep up the stock. But the Garo and Khasia hills in north east Bengal are the happy hunting grounds *par excellence*. They are thinly peopled and seamed with broad valleys which furnish an abundant supply of succulent fodder. Hence the elephants caught there are the bulkiest of their race. Eleven feet is quite an ordinary height, and giants are met with approaching thirteen feet. Their docility is equally remarkable. The yearly catch in the kheddah campaigns undertaken by Government and by private parties, is between four and five hundred, while the supply is practically inexhaustible. The beauty and excellent qualities of Garo elephants are recognized throughout India. In the Deccan they fetch Rs. 15,000 and upwards. Those captured on the Khasia and Jaintia Hills run them close; but their numbers are decreasing. They are also found throughout the Manipuri country, and in Hill Tippera the Maharaja derives no small proportion of his scanty revenues from the levy of royalties on those trapped in his jungly domains. The annual take there is about 150, but fine specimens are rare. The art of capturing and training elephants has made some advance of late years, thanks to the genius of the late Mr. Sanderson; but in all essentials the methods in use are of hoary antiquity. There are three approved systems—the Kot, or enclosure, Phansi, Noose, and Parahal, of which more presently. There is, indeed, a fourth, in which the wild animals are driven into pits deep enough to render escape hopeless. The injury to their chief pride, the tusks, in the fall or in the frantic efforts to escape, has rendered this plan obsolete.

The Kot is used by experts operating on a large scale. When the cold weather sets in, a camp is formed on a level space near the tract known to be haunted by the huge quarry. This contains ample stores of food for the army employed, often numbering more than a thousand men, as well as for the prospective catch. Then the "seekers," *jaras*, hereditary foresters acquainted with all the habits of the animals, are sent forward to spy out a herd. When one has been announced, the next point is to ascertain in what direction it is moving. Then a division of the beaters about 400 strong is sent forward to enclose it in a wide circle. They are divided into gangs of twenty, each under its headman, who carries a gun, the rank and file being armed with spears and axes. Meantime another division have been busily engaged in erecting a gigantic pound, the *kot*, into which the elephants are to be driven. It is circular, varying in size with that of the herd. The wall is composed of trunks of trees eighteen feet long by three and a half in diameter, embedded in the soil at intervals of 18 inches. It is further secured by layers of heavy bamboos secured transversely to the posts, and by external buttresses or stays of jungle-wood. Round the interior, six feet from the fencing, there runs a ditch as broad and wide, so placed in order to prevent the prisoners charging with their full force against the fence. The latter is pierced, on the side whence the prey is expected, by an opening twelve feet wide, secured by a massive door, falling through grooves as a portcullis. Its interior side is studded with sharp nails. This gateway is flanked on its exterior by side-walls trending outwards as long as half the diameter of the enclosure, forming, as it were, the section of a funnel, the door being the small end. This is termed the yard, or *angina*; and across its broadest part are spread three parallel ridges of dry straw. When all things are ready, the division of the little army which has been hemming

in the herd throws back its wings on the side nearest the enclosure leaving an apparently free egress in that direction. Then commences a file-firing of blank Cartridge, with an accompaniment of blood-curdling yells; and the frightened animals rush frantically towards their doom. On entering the yard and observing how rapidly it narrows, the herd often attempts to execute a "strategic movement to the rear." Then the straw at the entrance of the yard is lit, and fire, the elephants' most dreaded foe, completes their discomfiture. The maddened brutes press eagerly into the narrowing yard and so enter the enclosure. Then two men who have been holding up the sliding gateway, let it fall with a mighty crash, and the prisoners' fate is sealed. Soon afterwards, two powerful trained females *khunkies* enter the yard and take their stand on either side of the gateway. The portcullis is raised and a troop of other khunkies, each bestridden by a mahout, enter the enclosure. If a rush be made for freedom, the elephant gate-keepers deal the fugitives terrific blows with their trunks. And now one of the captives is singled out for the process of breaking. Four females surround him one with a rope-ladder hanging from her back. Down this her mahout deftly slides, and attaches another rope-ladder to the hind leg of the quarry, repeating the process till the latter has a drag of 80 pounds or so in weight hampering his movements. Then he is driven by the khunkies outside and firmly secured by ropes to a tree. Thus begins his first lesson in civilization.

The second, or *phansi* method of capturing elephant is based on the use of a sort of lasso. A herd of wild animals is followed by experts mounted on trained khunkies. When a likely-looking one is overtaken, the khunkies are driven close to him and one of the mahouts, leaning forward, slips a heavy noose over his head. The poor beast, at the touch of the rope, doubles back his trunk, and thus the noose is easily drawn round the neck. The ends of the rope are promptly made fast on either side to two khunkies which draw it tight, reducing their victim to a state of semi-strangulation. His hind feet are then fettered with masses of rope.

The third system known as *parata'i*, requires the use of five perfectly-trained khunkies. It comes into play for the capture of solitary males or *gondas* giants driven from a herd by the superior prowess of a rival and given to carrying death and ruin for miles beyond the forest precincts. When the approach of a gonda is signalled, chase is given by the troop of tame animals, four of which, without riders, press round and jam him so tightly that he is unable to stir. The fifth, which carries a mahout and two trackers, keeps in the back ground till the quarry is thus helpless. Then she joins the struggling group; and one of the experts sides down and attaches a rope drag to the hind leg of the captive monster.

Newly-caught elephant suffer most acutely, and evince their feelings by moods varying with their dispositions. Some sulk and refuse all nourishment. Others go mad with impotent rage; and cases have been known in which creatures in this plight, have flung themselves on the ground with such violence as to perish from the shock. Generally, however, the meretricious blandishments of the trained khunkies end in soothing this violent despair. But captives must be kept for a week at least in the shade, well fed and accustomed to human society, before the breaking process can commence. It is astonishing how quickly they grasp the situation. Some years ago, while serving on the eastern frontier, I paid a visit to a newly-captured herd, the fruit of the Maharaja of Hill Tippera's *kheddá* operations. On this occasion I was greatly struck with the docility and resignation of the poor brutes, just torn from their forest homes and forced to bend their proud necks to the yoke. Some, which had been ranging the hills a few days previously free as air, were to be seen being driven to water by a boy. I know of no other wild animal which, captured in an adult state, is capable of being so speedily domesticated. Is this susceptibility a proof of brain-power above or below the average? There is one curious fact which hardly bears out the elephants' legendary character for sagacity. It rarely or never occurs to one, however sullen or furious he may be, to drag a mahout from his own or his neighbour's back with the trunk.

The process most in vogue for training is called *jhatka*. The feet and neck of the wild animal are firmly secured to five posts driven into the ground and thus he is rendered helpless. His hide is then vigorously rubbed by a dozen or more mahouts, using huge brushes made of eight-foot bamboos with their ends split. If the patient resent this treatment by a sweep of his trunk, a spearman posted on either side corrects him with a gentle thrust. After a while, however, he yields to the soothing influences of this rough shampooing, and is then rubbed down with straw. After this process has been often repeated and the animal is accustomed to the presence of mankind, two of the mahouts venture to mount him, under the protection of tame khunkies pressing him closely and spearmen brandishing their weapons near his head. Then begins his first lesson. A khunki is ordered to go through the postures required in full view, and the novice must kneel and rise as she does on pain of a stab or a battering on the head with the heavy goad used by mahouts. In case of prolonged recalcitrance the pupil is jammed between two khunkies so tightly that he is rendered powerless. In the eastern districts the recruit stands in water up to his belly during this ordeal: for the fluid allays the pain of the spear thrust and lessons his irritation. It is said that animals treated with this modicum of consideration are more easily tamed than others. But, as in education generally, love is a more potent factor than fear. Elephants soon respond to attention shown them; and patience on the part of a trainer brings their best qualities into play. As soon as the breaking-in process is complete, the product is bought up by dealers, who take their purchases long distances in the hope of disposing of them at a profit. Throughout Northern Bengal it is the custom with zemindars to buy up young, half-trained animals cheaply; to complete the process, and re-sell them at one of the great annual Fairs. In February last I visited the Singhessur Mela, and was amazed at the display of elephants. They were tethered in hundreds under the mango-trees of a tope fully a mile square. Rembrandt alone could have done justice to the scene, when the ruddy glow of countless camp fires was reflected by long lines of giants engaged in discussing their suppers of *pipal*-leaves. An owner told me that he had just sold a beast for Rs. 15,000 which he had bought at the fair four years previously for Rs. 800.

Elephants should be kept in lofty stables facing the north; nothing is so injurious to them as glare. This *filkhana* should be as cool as possible; and be under the master's eye, for the tricks of mahouts are legion. The floor must be smooth and well-paved, to admit of its being kept scrupulously clean. If the bare ground be considered good enough, the filkhana must be moved frequently, in order to prevent the evil consequences to health of a soil saturated with fæcal matter. When the stud is numerous, great care must be taken to keep the animals from trespassing on each others domain. Like the rest of what used to be called the "brute creation," elephants have a strong sense of property in the quarters assigned them; a characteristic, by the way, which strongly militates against the socialistic theories so much in vogue in our expiring century.

—*The National Magazine.* F. H. SKRINE.

SEVEN POUNDS IN ONE WEEK.

Not every man who is thin would thank you for fattening him. He doesn't want to be fat and for very good reasons Unnecessary fat is a load to carry about; it interferes with a man's power to work, shortens his wind, and dulls his wits.

Yet, on the other hand, a certain amount of flesh is needed for health and comfort. For example: A man five feet high should weight about 120lbs.; and man five feet six inches, 145lbs.; a man six feet, 178lbs. It is a regular ascending scale. The insurance companies allow a variation of 7 per cent. above or below it, and beyond those limits charge an extra premium. One shouldn't be much over or under his proper weight if he wants to be sound and hearty—and we all do want that.

Now we will tell you how Mr. Thomas Crosby, being under weight, gained seven pounds in a week. He had lost 1½ stone, which is too much off for a man who was never fleshier than he naturally ought to be.

It was this way. He was right enough up to May, 1891. At that time he began to feel ill and out of sorts. He had a nasty taste in his mouth—like rotten eggs, he says—and a thick, slimy stuff came on his gums and teeth. His appetite failed, and what he did eat was, as you might say, under compulsion; and right afterwards he would have great pain in his stomach and chest. Plainly, something was amiss with him in that region. He was often dizzy, and cold chills ran over him as though he were threatened with fever. Of course we should expect a man who is handled in this way to lose strength. Mr. Crosby lost strength. In fact, he got so weak and nervous that he shook all over, and his hands trembled as if a current of electricity were running through him

To use his own words: "I rapidly lost flesh, was 1½ stone lighter, and could hardly walk about Once my parents thought I was dying, and sent in haste for the doctor. I saw two doctors in Epworth and one at Haxey, but they were not able to help me. Our vicar, Rev. Mr. Overton, recommended me to the Lincoln Infirmary, where I attended for eight weeks as an out door patient, without benefit

"Soon afterwards Mr. Sharp, a chemist, at Epworth, spoke to me of the virtues of a medicine known as Mother Seigel's Curative Syrup. Being interested in what he said, I left off trying other things and began taking this Syrup. In a few days I felt better, and presently I gained seven pounds in a week. At that rate I soon got back to my work, and have had the best of health ever since. I tell these facts to everybody, and am perfectly willing they should be published. Yours truly (Signed), TOM CROSBY, Ferry Road, Epworth, *via* Doncaster, December 23rd, 1892."

After reading Mr. Crosby's story we scarcely need to ask why he lost flesh. The minute he stopped eating and digesting his usual allowance of food he began to fall away. Trees, they say, grow as much from the air by means of their leaves, as they do from the soil. But men don't. They've got to be built up through their stomachs. Indigestion and dyspepsia (Mr. Crosby's complaint) stops this process and poisons those who have it, besides. That accounts for all the painful and dangerous symptoms our friend speaks of. The doctors do what they can, but, unluckily, they don't possess the medicine that goes to the bottom of this disease and cures it. The remedy is Mother Seigel's Curative Syrup, and nothing else, so far as we know. It restores digestion, and digestion covers the bones with fat enough for health and good looks.

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VOL. XIV. CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, JULY 27, 1895. WHOLE NO. 685.

CONTEMPORARY POETRY.

THE LADY JANE GREY.

ON hill and stream the morning beamed,
The fresh and fragrant morn,
And through the woodland cheerily
The huntsman wound his horn ;
And lords and ladies, richly dight,
The gallant and the gay,
Had vowed to waken with the light
The pastime of the day.

Within her chamber, far apart,
In simple garb attired,
Of modest mien, and brow serene,
A lady sat retired.
In meditative mood she sat,
And scanned the magic page,
The dreamy and mysterious lore
Of Greece's poet-sage.

And when the sound of horn and hound
Broke full upon her ear,
" They wist not in their sports," she cried,
" What pleasure I have here :
They wist not, Plato, of the joy,
The rapture that I feel,
The ' Paradise of rare device '
Thy fantasies reveal."

The tranquil day has passed away,
Its sunny hours have sped,
And gathering clouds begin to lower
Around the fated head :
The guileless truth of early youth,
Its faith and trust remain,
But other cares and other friends
Surround the Lady Jane.

The heartless wiles of crafty men
Already hem her in,
The perils of the trusting heart
In sober sooth begin ;
Before her feet adventurers lay
The glittering bauble down :
The haughtiest knee in England bends
To tender her—a crown !

" My lords," she said, " for one so young,
'T were maidenly and meet
To take your counsels for a lamp
And guide unto my feet ;
Albeit, I have never sighed
Nor sought for high degree ;
The gauds and glitter of a court
Have little charm for me.

" I reverence your sage resolves,
Your subtlety admit,
And weak and worthless at the best
I know is woman's wit ;
But God has fortified my soul
Against this trying hour,
And in His ' faith and fear ' I shun
The path to regal power.

" How often in disast'rous feuds
Hath English blood been shed !
What living man, my lords, could bear
Its curse upon his head ?
Were it not better to unite,
And bid dissension cease,
That so we might advance the reign
Of righteousness and peace ?

" May God protect our English homes,
And bless my cousin's reign "—
A sudden shout was raised without,
" Long live the Lady Jane !"
Arise, ye loyal Londoners,
And shout for Jane the Queen !
The peerless choice of England's voice !
The monarch of sixteen !

* *

The pageant gay has passed away,
The garish dream has flown .
In sad and silent prison-room
The captive sits alone.
The wasted form, and broken heart—
The chamber in the tower—
Are these the sole memorials left
Of that brief day of power ?

But ne'er was sufferer's brow, methinks,
So placid and serene ;
Angelic grace had left its trace
In her submissive mien :
" *He* can not err whose hand," she cried,
" The universe sustains ;
And welcome every change and chance
His Providence ordains."

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And as the parting hour drew nigh,
Her faith the stronger grew :
So young, so good, so beautiful,
So constant and so true !
In vain the zealous priest of Rome
Essayed, with honeyed tongue,
To win her from the cherished creed
To which she fondly clung.

" Sir Abbot," with a smile she cried,
" Your subtle reasons spare ;
My heart is fixed and resolute ;—
In courtesy forbear :
To argue for my faith is not
For one so weak as I ;
But *in* it, by the grace of God,
And *for* it I can die !

" And tell my cousin —since, you say,
She mourns my sinful state—
I have a ghostly counsellor
In this my mortal strait.
Tell her I freely own my fault,
And recognize her right ;
She loves me not, and soon the grave
Will hide me from her sight

" May all her subjects duteously
Incline unto her will ;
And God forgive me, if I e'er
Have wished or thought her ill
Tell her that though the flesh be frail,
The spirit feels its might,
And longs to burst its bonds, and soar
Rejoicing into light !

" Commend me to my father's prayers,
And to my loving lord
I charge you as a Christian man
To take my dying word :
It mitigates the stroke of death,
The pang of parting pain,
To think that we who loved so well
So soon shall meet again !"

'T is said that on the fatal morn,
From her secluded cell
She saw Lord Guildford pass to death,
And waved a last farewell .
Nay more, she saw, too plainly saw,
Beneath her window borne,
Oh sight of speechless agony !
His headless trunk return.

Her fortitude had well-nigh failed
Beneath the cruel shock ;
But calmly, martyr-like, she laid
Her head upon the block.
And long shall fame enshrine her name
Among the great and good ;
The image of heroic faith
And guileless womanhood.

And brightly her example still
Shines through the mist of years .
The gentle and the true embalm
Her memory with tears ;
By winter fires her tale is told,
And never told in vain,
As children listen to the Life
And Death of Lady Jane.

– *Sharpe.*

WEEKLYANA.

In consequence of the union of the West and South United Presbyterian congregations in Duns, the church of the former, built 7 years back, at a cost of £2,000, was declared a superfluity and disposed of to the highest bidder for £170. Union and disestablishment go hand in hand. Not the church is free—from the auctioneer's hammer.

* * *

At the German town of Insterburg, they have started an Association for the Prevention of Scandal in Society. Each member is bound "to denounce to the president all those who are detected in backbiting their neighbours, giving full details, the names of the persons with whom the report originated, those who helped to spread it and the witnesses to prove it." The Association then calls upon the injured person to proceed against the offender, and offers financial aid if necessary. The members would be more useful if they directed themselves against the origination than the growth of scandals. It is likely, however, that in attempting to check an evil, they will unconsciously help on its spread. The money could be better expended in other ways. At the same time, the establishment of the society may be an indication that the evil which it is intended to suppress has grown enormously. Whatever the necessity, the system of espionage cannot be beneficial to society. It has a tendency to degenerate into terrorism and blackmailing.

* * *

The *World's* last "Celebrity at Home" is Sir Edwin Arnold. The writer says :—

"Poet, *littérateur*, journalist, traveller though he be, the handsome flat wherein Sir Edwin Arnold finds a *pied-à terre* bears few indications of his eventful life or of his long residence in India and wanderings over the land of the Rising Sun, whose people he learned to love so well. A large square anteroom leads into what is naturally the most interesting portion of his home—the bright, cheerful study so characteristic of the man. A tiny despatch-box—the companion of many journeys—stands on a small table, and is quite large enough for one who, with such orderly, methodical habits, knows where to put his hand on any paper required, and 'can write on the top of a hat as well as anywhere else.' The bookcases contain only a few relics of a once vast library, for Sir Edwin dislikes accumulations, and considers that portable property is a great nuisance. Wherefore he has twice dispersed his books and household gods among his children, so as to be free of effects : nevertheless, there are some little possessions of interest which he retains, 'only for the present,' he remarks significantly. 'Those who see my flat know I live elsewhere ; and though I make books, I never keep them.' Among the pictures on the walls there is one of the Emperor of Japan on horseback, another of Prince Siddartha drawing the curtain over the couch of his sleeping wife before he went forth on his act of renunciation, and a fine proof-before-letters engraving of Noel Paton's 'Oberon and Titania.' There are plenty of deep, comfortable lounging-chairs, presumably for the use of his friends ; for Sir Edwin himself, with perfect physical health, never knows what it is to be tired or to have had even one headache, and attributes it to the fact that he never frets, never hurries, and looks upon life as a fine art, and that it is as reasonable to study to preserve a healthy body for the soul as it is for a good soldier to keep his scabbard in order for the useful blade. And yet in a career so chequered, so full of incident, adventure, and unceasing work, it can only be the bright, optimistic spirit within that enables Sir Edwin Arnold to declare that, having done everything, seen everything, known most people, and had a vast experience of the world, he has a contented mind, and that to him to-morrow is always better than to-day. If asked when he is happiest, he would say on the present occasion, and he works simply because he loves work. Hence it is that his *entourage* is of slight importance ; and though he laughingly assures you that he feels somewhat as Dr. Johnson felt when Boswell told him he was going to write his life, and could almost answer in the same words, 'I will take your life if you do,' he yields 'for auld acquaintance sake, and a wish to please.'

A born poet and a student from childhood, Edwin Arnold simply was weaned on books, and remembers well, when he was five years old, his father, who always did things on a large scale, sending up to his room a washing-basket full of quartos and folios, among which those of Dampier and La Perouse first fired his imagination with a love of history, of geography, and of travel ; while Pope's 'Iliad' he would devour in bed, turning his shoulder to the window to catch the last glimpses of the waning light. His schooldays were passed at King's School, Rochester, and King's College, London, after which he was elected to a scholarship at University College, Oxford, where he won the Newdigate prize for his English poem on 'The Feast of Belshazzar,' and the following year was chosen to give the Address to the Prime Minister, Lord Derby, on the occasion of his being installed Chancellor of the University. Leaving Oxford with high honours, he was elected second master in the English Division of King Edward VI.'s School at Birmingham, and later, turning his footsteps towards the East, he was appointed Principal of the Government Sanskrit College at Poona, and Fellow of the Bombay University. The young Principal's quick mastery of Oriental languages and keen insight into the complex Oriental character, together with an innate tact in dealing alike with the native princes, the heads of departments, and

students, enabled him to be of considerable use in educational affairs, and he was twice thanked by the Governor in Council for his services. Nor was he distinguished in official and social life only. With the physical vigour and activity which do not generally go with powerful intellects, he was an ardent sportsman, and had many thrilling adventures while in pursuit of 'big game' and out pig-sticking.

With a mind attuned to all that is lofty alike in ideas and in aims and full of the imagery of poetry, Sir Edwin Arnold possesses a peculiar simplicity of character, together with a magnetic power of sympathy and a detestation of all uncharitableness. His conversation is full, now of sparkling anecdote, anon of thrilling pathos, as may suit the subject, while the gentle, courteous manner has a charm all its own. His brightness is infectious; it seems to brace and invigorate even the most depressed of those with whom he comes in contact, and to cause them to look upon life through his own rose-coloured glasses.

Sir Edwin Arnold's foreign Orders alone are a collection of curiosities. 'The Light of Asia' brought him the decoration of the White Elephant from the King of Siam; the Order of the Lion and Sun came from the Shah of Persia on the production of another fascinating volume, 'With Sadi in the Garden; or, the Book of Love,' a poem founded on a single chapter of the work of the Persian poet Sadi. In later years, during his visit to Japan, the Emperor conferred on him the Order of the Rising Sun, which carries with it the dignity of Chokunin of the Empire; not to speak of the Imperial Order of the Medjidieh from the Sultan and Imperial Order of Osmanle. The decoration Companion of the Star of India he received on the occasion of the proclamation of the Queen as Empress of India; and eleven years after he was created Knight Commander of the Indian Empire. He is likewise a Fellow of the Royal Asiatic and other societies, and honorary correspondent of the Geographical Society of Marseilles."

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ACCORDING to the *World*,

"Ali Cromwell's descendants in the direct male line are extinct, but he is the lineal ancestor through females of a numerous progeny. Among the peers who descend from Cromwell are Lords Ripon, Chichester, Clarendon, Cowper, Morley, Lytton, Walsingham, and Ampthill; and among the eldest sons of peers who so descend are Lord Courtenay (heir to the earldom of Devon), Lord Stanley (heir to the earldom of Derby), and Lord Clifton (heir to the earldom of Darnley). Lady Devon, Lady Derby, Lady Darnley, Lady Bathurst, Lady Rosslyn, Lady Lytton, Lady Lathom, Lady Isabella Whitbread, Lady Ampthill, and Lady Northwick are likewise his descendants. So are Sir John Lubbock and half a dozen other baronets, Mr. Charles Villiers, the Father of the House of Commons, and Mr. Montagu Villiers, the vicar of St. Paul's, Knightsbridge."

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MR. T. D Beighton, C.S., having fallen ill and taken a month's leave, Mr. P. L. Roy, barrister-at-law, acts both as Deputy Legal Remembrancer and Superintendent of Legal Affairs. Mr. Roy has deserved the choice.

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THE following from the Indian Intelligence of the current *Indian Magazine and Review* is a hard nut even to those most concerned :—

"The title of Rajah as a personal distinction (conferred) upon Kumar Krishna Deb, of Soodazai; and Kular Zail Khan, of Narajde."

Are we in Bengal or in Swaziland?

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THE more knowing *Asiatic Quarterly Review* transforms the new Chief Justice of the Nizam's dominions into Mir Kadar Buksh. Perhaps it is right. The *Langar* is just over. The Pleader of Patna has played many parts, and may be anything but a dispenser of justice next to God.

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THE Birthday of the Maharaja of Kashmir was celebrated on the 18th July by a salute of 21 guns and half holiday in the public offices, shewing that Maharaja Partab Singh is, if at all, only half ruler in his dominions.

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IN the village of Gandhar, near Broach, a Mahomedan having dug up certain Jain idols and carvings, the Jains wanted to possess them. The Collector, Mr. A. C. Logan, decided that they had no claim, legal or moral, to the property, but that Government was pleased to order that "the said idols and carvings should be handed over to the Jains of Broach, provided that they agree to make the Mussulman Gemal Umed, who found the images, such a present as the under- ·v decide." Mr. Logan then fixed the value of the present Thou .

But futu.

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Of virtue's mode ities of his position, Prince Sir Jehan Kadr e Mahomedan Hostel fund.

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Old ocean thus, in ca d, at the Emerald Theatre, the third Is softest of imagina ndit Iswara Chandra Vidyasagar. In peaceful glory, by no preside and Baboo Rabindra Nath

* Madam Life and Work of the deceased. s been published on the subject,

Subscribers in the country a ll be able to add to it and set medium, particularly given, a

NOTES & LEADERETTES,

OUR OWN NEWS,

&

THE WEEK'S TELEGRAMS IN BRIEF, WITH OCCASIONAL COMMENTS.

THE latest election returns show the following results :—

Unionists elected 393, gains 101

Liberals elected 156, gains 20

Ten Parnellites, 62 Anti-Parnellites and two Labour candidates have also been elected.

Sir W. V. Harcourt has been elected for West Monmouth by a majority of five thousand votes, Mr Warmington, the Liberal candidate, having retired in his favour.

The *Times* urges the re-election of Mr. Gully as Speaker.

THE Chinese loan has been over-subscribed by a large amount.

ON the 20th, Prince Nasrulla Khan was granted a farewell audience at Windsor Castle. Her Majesty handed him an autograph letter addressed to "the Amir, my valued friend and ally." On the 26th, he paid a farewell visit to the Prince and Princess of Wales The prince, leaves England at the end of this month, and will visit Paris, Brussels, Venice, and Egypt *en route* to India.

THE Sultan has conferred on the Khedive the Order of Khanidan Osman, in recognition of his fidelity and eminent services. The Khedive will visit Odessa and the Crimea before returning to Egypt.

THE funeral of M. Stambouloff took place at Sofia, on July 20. It was a most disorderly scene. The cortége was twice broken by the mob and almost dispersed owing to the panic which seized the mourners A detachment of Cavalry was called out. That prevented a collision between the parties at the cemetery. The coffin was lowered into the grave amidst great hooting and cheering.

Three men have been arrested and charged with the murder of M Stambouloff.

THE Porte has informed the Ambassadors at Constantinople that a scheme of reforms for the Turkish Asiatic provinces will shortly be presented. It has appointed Shakir Pasha to supervise the proposed reforms in Armenia. An amnesty has been granted to all Armenians except common law offenders. Lord Salisbury has informed Rustem Pasha, the Turkish Ambassador, that the British policy in regard to the Armenian question remains unchanged.

THE Czar received the Bulgarian deputation on the 20th and declared that he would not refuse to protect Bulgaria in the future.

IN a collision between two Italian steamers in the Gulf of Spezia, on the 21st., 145 passengers and three of the crew were drowned.

AT the invitation of Her Majesty a number of Indians and Burmese connected with the Indian Exhibition, visited Windsor Castle on Saturday, and were most graciously received

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ADVICES from Bangkok state that the Anglo-French Commission for the delimitation of the territories in the region of the Upper Mekong to enable the French and British Governments to establish a buffer State under Chinese control, has returned without having come to any agreement. The failure is owing to the French having erected a fort in the proposed buffer State territory and to the British protection and interests in the country near the Mekong river.

THE French are experiencing great troubles in Madagascar owing to increasing sickness among their troops and the difficulty of providing transport. The arrival of the force at Antananarivo during the present season is doubtful. The French papers complain of bad organisation in connection with the expedition. General Duchesne, commanding the forces in Madagascar, telegraphs that he is marching upon Andriba

and is building the road as he goes. The progress of the force is, he states, difficult

THE Russian Pamir Commissioners have been instructed to enter into no negociations with the British Commissioner until Roshan and Shignan have been entirely evacuated by the Afghans.

THE latest advices from Cuba state that the insurrection is further spreading and that the fighting with the insurgents is constant and of a serious nature. The losses of the Spaniards by climate and in the field are very heavy. The Spanish Government, in view of the serious turn of affairs, will despatch twentythree thousand more troops to Cuba next month

JAPAN demands from China an additional indemnity of seven and half millions sterling for abandoning the Liao Tung Peninsula.

THE Franco-Chinese Convention, lately signed at Pekin, settling the boundaries and commercial relations between Yunnan and Tonquin and permitting railways and telegraphs, opens to French commerce several southern ports, where Consuls will be permitted, and concedes the right of mining in the three southern provinces, together with freedom to navigate the rivers Loho and Mekong.

BARON Blanc, Minister for Foreign Affairs, speaking in the Italian Chamber of Deputies, said Russia had intimated that she had only religious interests in Abyssinia King Menelik, he said, owed his throne to Italy, but had repaid the debt by betraying her. The prospect of war between Italy and King Menelik is openly discussed in Rome.

SLATIN Bey, the former Governor of Darfour, who was captured by the Dervishes after the fall of Khartoum, and only effected his escape in March last, has arrived in London In an interview with the representative of Reuter's agency he stated that the Khalifa had lost much of his prestige and power, and was now entirely dependent on Western Arabs. The Mahdists, he added, were more likely to act on the defensive than the offensive No telegraph line, he said, would be possible across Africa until the Mahdists have been wiped out.

THE sensation from Simla is the robbery at Viceregal Lodge of £800 worth of jewellery—the property of Mrs. Grant, wife of Captain Grant, R N. (retired), a guest of the Viceroy The jewels were missing on the 23rd, having apparently been removed during Mrs. Grant's absence at Mashobra No trace has been found of the missing articles.

ON account of indisposition, Lady Elliott has not returned to Calcutta. It does not appear that she will accompany her lord in his next tour.

SIR Charles Elliott makes another rather lengthened tour before returning to Darjeeling. Leaving Calcutta on Monday, the 5th August, he visits Muzafferpur, Monghyr, Bhagalpur, Rajmahal and Rampur Boalia. The arrival at Darjeeling is timed 15-30 on Thursday, the 22nd August The Lieutenant-Governor will be accompanied by the Honble H J. S Cotton, Chief Secretary, Captain Currie, Private Secretary, and Captain Lister, Aid-de-camp.

AT a special communication of the District Grand Lodge to be held in the Bombay Town Hall, on the 23rd of August, Lord Sandhurst will be installed Pro District Grand Master of the English Constitution of Freemasonry in the Bombay Presidency.

THE English world is mad after Grace—the Cricketer. The versatile Sir Richard Temple claims to be superior to him. In presenting the gold medal of the Balloon Society to Dr W G Grace, Sir Richard said:

"As an old cricketer myself, I have not forgotten the mysteries of the game, but in the present day the wicket is so managed that the batsman always gets the best of the bowler. In my days I occupied the position of longstop, now no longer required in the field, but it was one of the hardest and most important. Not only were the hands used, but face, chest, limbs were often called into play in stopping the ball. But now all is changed, and things are much easier."

The one rupee subscription in India for the Grace testimonial is, we are afraid, not making rapid progress. The *Nilgiri News* has opened a second subscription for larger sums. That list is headed by the Governor of Madras and the proprietor of the *News* with Rs. 50 each.

AMONG the heroes of the Chitral campaign distinguished with the Order of Merit is a Sepoy who had no fewer than 31 wounds. That record is broken by a Sikh soldier. "He was shot in the side at the Koragh Defile, when Ross's party were cut up. He could feel the bullet in his body and so worked away at it with both hands, gradually pushing it outwards until he had extracted it." Immediately he shouldered his rifle again and did his march of twenty miles.

THERE is also a feeling among Europeans of disappointment akin to astonishment at the conferment of the Knighthood of the Exalted Star on Surgeon-Major Robertson. He wins the distinction more for his errantry or adventure in originating the campaign than for any gallantry in the field.

IT is said that

"the notification issued a few days ago by the Governor-General in Council, ordering the discontinuance of the grant of drawbacks of duty on cotton-goods exported from British ports to Native States, is the first step towards carrying into effect the proposal the Government of India have lately pressed upon the Feudatories for the levy of a five per cent. excise duty on cotton yarns of 20's count and above. The design of this measure, it is stated, is to bring the conditions under which cotton manufactures are carried on in Native States where mills exist into conformity with those obtaining in British India. Unless the principalities concerned agree to this arrangement, the Government of India, it is stated, will take special measures to prevent the importation of cotton goods made in such States into British India."

We may here explain the attitude taken by Lord Stanley of Alderley in regard to the cotton industry in this country and the silk industry in England. He spoke twice and against the cotton excise duties. On the first occasion, Lord Reay had answered only the question on the Notice and not what was asked about the India Office over-ruling the Indian Government as to the difference of 24 and 20 counts. So Lord Stanley reverted to the subject, and contended that the difference was protection to Lancashire. This time Lord Kimberley answered, explaining that the Government of India had the power to alter, if it found it necessary, 20 to 24 counts Notwithstanding that reservation in the Act, the excise duty is unjust to India. It was plain, that her Majesty's Government could not move in the matter without a sop to Manchester. Lord Stanley was for a duty on foreign silk to save the expiring silk industry in England.

THE elected members of the Bengal Council are coming in one by one The first to sit was Mr. A. M Bose. He is followed by Rai Bahadoor Eshan Chunder Mitter, who took his seat last Saturday and is gazetted this week.

THE Dacca Division, as represented by the four delegates from the four District Boards, has chosen Babu Guruprasad Sen as its representative to the Bengal Council. It is not to be supposed that they have used their discretion or were unanimous. Only three voted for Mr. Sen. The increase of one vote is due to the retreat of the other candidate. If Raja Surji Kant Acharjee had [illegible] the last field, there would have again been a tie. Baboo [illegible] which he was had opposed by his own candidature Mah. [illegible] of Durbhanga at the Bihar election and [illegible] Now Raja Surja Kant of Muktagach[illegible] Pleader Baboo. We are sorry for [illegible] he ought to have been elected. But [illegible] or had not set about the matter in [illegible] win an election, as it never won a[illegible]

Notwithstanding, the result [illegible] Babu Guruprasad is one of [illegible]

passed at King's [illegible] Oxford, where he won [illegible] poem on 'The Feast of [illegible]osen to give the Address to [illegible] occasion of his being installed [illegible] Oxford with high honours, he [illegible]nglish Division of King Edward [illegible]cipal of the Government Sanskrit [illegible]e Bombay University. The young [illegible]al languages and keen insight into the [illegible]ther with an innate tact in dealing [illegible] the heads of departments, and [illegible] talents and experience for the

We give below the Government letter allowing the second voting:

"No. 3396 A.
Appointment Department.

From—H. J. S. Cotton, Esq. C. S. I.,
Chief Secretary to the Government of Bengal.

To—The Commissioner of Dacca,

Dated Calcutta, the 8th July, 1895

Sir,—I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 1:91G, dated the 3rd July 1895, reporting that the electoral representatives of the District Boards in the Dacca Division were unable to agree among themselves by a majority for the recommendation of a member to sit in the Bengal Council.

2. In reply I am directed to say that although no rule was framed allowing for the adjournment of a meeting of electoral representatives, there is no rule against such adjournment, and that it is always contemplated by the Lieutenant-Governor that on such a deadlock as this occurring, the delegates would adjourn and sit day by day and communicate with their constituents and come to some decision at last. Sir Charles Elliott trusts that they will do so now, and you are requested to convene them again for the purpose. The power of Government to nominate in default of election does not arise until after the expiration of two months from the day on which you issue your invitation to the District Boards to elect a representative but the Lieutenant Governor does not desire to avail himself of this power, and hopes that the delegates will be able to agree on, or to decide by a majority in favour of, one man."

The interpretation of the rule is reasonable. But it does not entirely remove the difficulty which may recur again. The initial mistake of an even number of delegates to choose a representative is rectified in the present instance by the retirement of a candidate. We are grateful to Sir Charles Elliott for not seizing an opportunity of nominating a Member of his own selection.

The Bhagalpur delegates have not been warned by the Dacca example. There is a tie there also. Mr. George Hennessy and Rai Bahadar Surjya Narain Singh have obtained equal votes. The Bhagalpur elections have been the most contested. There were four candidates and every attempt was made to keep out the European.

As usual, the current number of the *Imperial and Asiatic Quarterly Review* is varied. It has now additional interest for India. The East India Association has dropped its own journal, and the important papers read there will be published in this quarterly. The July number thus opens with a shorthand report of an Address by Sir Richard Temple to the Association at its annual meeting, dealing with "India in Parliament in 1894-95 and the Situation in India." There is more than one paper on India. Last week, we reproduced a note on "Interference with Native States" by "Ex-Political." He recommends interference with the internal administration of Native States. His advice is that "the British Resident at a Native Court should be something more than passive. He should be the Guide, as well as the Philosopher and the Friend."

The relations between the Paramount Power and the Native Princes may not be clearly defined. But there can be no question that, in Native Principality, the British Resident, if not the British Government, is more powerful than the Prince. The Ruler is in constant dread of the Representative. The Prince's whole aim and object is to keep the Resident in good humour. If he is dissatisfied, there is no peace for the Prince. The Principality may not be swept away, but the Prince is nowhere. The British Government also has as complete a control as it could wish or feel disposed to exercise. Short of annexation, its power is supreme. It can seize a Prince in his own territory, and, after degrading him by an open trial, depose him, and set up a new dynasty, without the cause being made public. Or, it may quietly send a Prince on exile from his own territories. The Prince is not at liberty to dismiss a servant that is obnoxious to him, or retain one that is not in the good book of the Resident. If temporarily suspended, the Prince cannot even spend his own [illegible] defending himself. What need then for a clearer definition or bi-[illegible]. Or, for open powers? The interference being already [illegible] which side is it desirable to extend it?

The circular* on the Native Press of India, which an official from Simla recommends the Government to print a paper on

Thou shedd'st print a paper
But future with-
Of virtue's modest-
Old ocean thus, in calm
Is softest of imaginable
In peaceful glory, by no zeal

press policy. He is not for gagging the native press generally. He is above official, he is Imperial. He would ever the Governor-General in Council

* Madame A[illegible]r the operation of its clauses by a fect." A *bond fide* native newspaper, irrespective of the lan-

Subscribers in the country are a[illegible] medium, particularly as[illegible] given, any

paper! That, we may be sure, means much in the writer's vocabulary We suppose the determination of the question is to rest with some official of the writer's creed. *Bus!* The reform, though drastic, has simplicity to recommend it.

BY desire of the Lieutenant-Governor, the President, the annual meeting of the Indian Association for the Cultivation of Science will be held on Tuesday, the 30th instant, at 5-30 P.M., instead of Monday the 29th as previously announced Other than members have been invited, and it is expected that the proceedings will interest them as well.

DR. Daly and the Metropolitan Institution have parted before their acquaintance was one month old. The students did not like him or his mode of teaching. He was, for one thing, not loud enough for them.

THE Howrah-Sheakhala Tramways Company, Limited, has a history of its own. It is several years that Messrs Walsh, Lovett and Co., of Calcutta, were moved by a few of the foremost men of the Serampore Sub-Division of the Hooghly District to take up the project of a Tramway from Howrah to Sheakhala through Chanditalah and Janai. To avoid acquiring land, it was suggested to run the line along the old Benares Road or what is sometimes called Ahalya Bai's Road. Statistics were gathered to see whether the line would pay. The result was encouraging. The local traffic consisted for the most part of cart- and cattle-borne jute and corn and cocoanuts and vegetables of different kinds. The number of passengers also by cabs and *palkis*, moving between Howrah and Sheakhala, is respectable. To make assurance doubly sure, it was ascertained that more than half the estimated capital of 3 lacs would be contributed by gentlemen interested in the project. A survey was then commenced. Much time was lost in determining how the E. I. Railway line could be avoided, for no tramway can be laid along the old Benares Road as it runs westward from Salkea without crossing the railway line. It was finally resolved to commence the line from Telkalghat at Howrah, to lead it through Bantra and then reaching the old Benares Road at Milky to take it along that fine broad road up to Chanditala and thence after a slight deviation through Janai and the villages to its west to Sheakhala. Correspondence was opened with the Howrah Municipality and the District Road Cess Committee for terms for use of the roads The matter had advanced very far when the firm of Messrs Walsh, was succeeded by that of Messrs. Martin and Co The latter took up the project in right earnest. The terms have now been settled with both the Howrah Municipality and the Hooghly District Road Cess Committee. The Government of Bengal approved of the project and sanctioned it in March last. Messrs. Martin have drawn up the memorandum and articles of association. A memorandum of agreement also has been drafted to bind the firm which is to construct the line and the Company to be formed for managing it. The capital is to be Rs. 5,40,000 in 5,400 shares of Rs. 100 each. Messrs. Martin are prepared to complete the line within 18 months. They will carry on the business of the Company under the direction and control of the Directors. The Managing Agents will continue in office until they resign of their own accord or are removed by a special Resolution of the shareholders. The number of Directors will not be more than seven or less than five. Two of the members of the firm of Messrs Martin and two persons nominated by the Hooghly District Board will always be Directors, the other Directors being appointed by the shareholders. A Director must hold at least 50 shares

The question now is, why should the Howrah Municipality be entirely ignored? It is fairly entitled to appoint one Director. Upon the same principle the Government of Bengal may claim a voice in the Directorate. It may, however, not care for the privilege and the shareholders, therefore, will not have to endure any dictation from that quarter except indirectly. The principle of shareholders appointing their own Directors is so sound and so usual that no deviation ought to be allowed unless for very strong reasons. The estimated capital is not small In the ordinary course of things, it will have to be raised from persons interested in the project. It is true that there is nothing to prevent strangers from taking a good many shares. But in this

country, projects purely local hardly interest outsiders. The promoters would therefore do well to alter the plan about the appointment of at least the first Directors. These should be taken from such families as the Mookerjees of Uttarpara, the Mookerjees of Janai, and Chowdhries of Barjhate and such others. The first Directors should be men competent by their local influence to push the interests of the Company in the rapid disposal of the shares

A PETITION has been addressed by seventy-six rayyets of Nadia to the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal. It refers to the case noticed in our issues of February 23 and March 9 It will be in the recollection of our readers how the Magistrate of Nadia, by refusing, on the strange plea of want of establishment, to enquire into the claims of 76 rayyats for possession of their fields, allowed the disputes to be kept open, and how he afterwards induced the Government of Bengal to quarter an additional Police on the disturbed area under section 15 of Act V of 1861. The petition describes a state of things such as is possible under only an administration distinguished for vigour beyond the law. Land is meant for use or occupation. Nothing but the highest necessity can justify even a temporary suspension of its use. In Nadia, however, the Magistrate sought to forbid the use of land for an indefinite period. Fortunately, the Divisional Commissioner kept his head. At his recommendation the Government of Bengal refused to grant extension, for an indefinite period, of the Magistrate's order under Section 144 of the Code of Criminal Procedure. For all that, the Bengal Government was weak enough to accede to the Magistrate's prayer for the quartering of a special Police. The costs were directed in the notification to be realised from all the parties to the dispute. The Magistrate, however, levied them on only the rayyets, exempting the two wealthier parties totally, The special Police sat like an incubus on the poor cultivators for a period of six months. During this period the Magistrate did nothing to remove the cause of the dispute by enquiring into the claims for possession. In the meantime, extension, by four months, has been granted by Government for continuance of the additional Police at the cost of the rayyets. This then is the capacity for administration displayed by the District Officer! The action of the Magistrate is inexplicable. The poor rayyets have been kept out of their lands for successive seasons. All the while, however, their powerful landlords, have been allowed to preacefully grow indigo on the disputed land and reap the harvest.

REIS & RAYYET.

Saturday, July 27, 1895.

INSANITARY CALCUTTA AND UNMANNERLY COMMISSIONERS.

THE Bengal Chamber of Commerce has addressed an important letter to the Bengal Government on the general insanitation of Calcutta. The city is fast ceasing to be the sanitarium that it was proving to be after the introduction of filtered water and underground drainage. On the opening of the water works, cholera had almost disappeared. The extension of sewers had purged the city of the buzzing mosquitos. Cholera and smallpox, like fever and bowel complaints, are of ordinary occurrence. Flies and mosquitos dog you at every step. The sewers which were hailed as deliverers from all evils have added a new terror in the shape of sewer gas which pursues you everywhere with nameless and unnumbered ills in its train. Typhoid is on the increase. It is not surprising, therefore, that the Chamber, as representing the European community and the commerce of Calcutta, should be alarmed. It proceeds to the business, however, in no captious spirit, but in the interest of the entire population. It is well also that the Chamber has spoken, for its voice is no cry in the wilderness. The Chamber refers to "the recurrence with greater frequence and increasing severity of those waves of disease which modern science in many other places has worked so successfully to stamp out," in addition to "the endemic ailments of the East." It next alludes to the increase of typhoid fever and is most alarmed at the dreaded approach of the China plague which is nearing the city, having arrived at Singapore. Mr. Clarke, the Secretary, exonerates the Commissioners from all responsibility for inefficient works to which they have become heir. He specifies the trenching ground at Goragacha as the danger in our midst, and suggests that no such ground should be permitted on the south or south-west of the city and the southern suburbs.

Unlike Sir Rivers Thompson, Sir Charles Elliott is not for superseding the Commissioners on the mere complaint. Nor does he take any gloomy view of the situation. The action taken on the representation is that the Bengal Government has laid down the following rules regarding trenching grounds and has called upon the Municipality for a report on typhoidal fevers.

"(1) In no trenching ground should the depth of the trenches exceed three feet, nor should the bulk of sewage deposited exceed one-half of the amount of earth filled in.

(2) Immediate effect should be given to this rule in dealing with the new Goragacha ground, and as soon as that ground has been used up, it should be closed, and the sewage of the Wards concerned deposited in the new ground at Gopalpur.

(3) This ground, and any new ground that may hereafter be opened, should be trenched symmetrically and on a regular system, so that each part of it shall be used in rotation, and crops grown on the portions used as soon as this can be done.

(4) Trenching on low land should be avoided as far as possible. If only low ground can be obtained, it must be artificially raised.

(5) Steps should at once be taken for acquiring the necessary area of trenching ground, and a regular scheme should be drawn up for its working; the amount of sewage to be disposed of should be estimated with reference to the population concerned; and the area necessary to deal with it on the conditions laid down above should be accurately determined.

(6) The old Goragacha ground has been brought into such a foul condition that in all probability crops will not grow on it. If this is the case it should be turfed over at once, and the new Goragacha ground should be either turfed or cultivated as may be found practicable."

In its reply to the Chamber, the Local Government upholds the trenching system as the best yet discovered for disposing of fœcal matter. "The practice," the letter says,

"of rendering sewage innocuous by mixing it with dry earth was hailed not very long ago as a great sanitary discovery, and it has been largely adopted in Europe. The Lieutenant-Governor is informed that the system is successfully followed in several towns in India, and it is the universal practice of Bengal jails to dispose of fœcal matter in this way, and no unpleasant results have ensued. It is the misuse and not the use of the trenching system which should be objected to. It depends for it success on the oxidising effect that a porous substance, such as dry earth, exerts by bringing any sewage with which it is mixed into intimate contact with the air contained in its pores. If crops are afterwards grown upon the land thus treated, the process of purification goes on more rapidly and certainly."

Trenching grounds cannot but be a nuisance, and we are not sure that the methods suggested will remove the evils emanating from them. No doubt much of the nuisance will not be felt if the procedure laid down be strictly followed. But the difficulty, especially in lazy Bengal, has always been to
as minutely. In the rains, these open tr
typical of the place reserved for the
earth, the soul of this system, b

The Commissioners are certainl
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alone can justify their existence. Their meetings are most crowded when an appointment is to be made. Works or estimates which require scrupulous scruitny are passed without much examination. Private and not public matters engage their earnest attention. They love to talk—to little or no purpose. Any attempt to control them in that direction is highly resented, for they are independent and fearless. The other day, they not only would not accept a proposition to limit their eloquence to reasonable lengths, but hounded the proposer, who had acted from the best of motives and spoke remarkably well. If the majority of speakers at municipal meetings could speak half as well, there would be no complaint. This week they exhibited a temper which is unparalleled in the history of the municipality. We have had independent Commissioners and fearless Justices of the Peace, but they were scarcely so unmannerly as several of the Commissioners proved themselves on Thursday last.

The occasion was the sanctioning of a three-storyed verandah for the new viceregal buildings for the accommodation of Government House guests, and the applicant the Military Secretary on behalf of the Viceroy. And what occasion more tempting for pitiable display of bad taste, worse manners and foolish self-importance! The loquacious majority triumphed and the thinking minority went to the wall. The Viceroy himself had a snub. The Commissioners would not only not grant the application but were unnecessarily rude. The Town Hall had witnessed stormier municipal meetings, but we cannot call to mind one more boisterous and unmannerly. After allowing permanent unesthetical structures on footpaths in every street, lane and byelane to insanitate houses and public thoroughfares, they, when the matter grew into a scandal, adopted a rule not to allow any but an open verandah, open to the skies, over a street. We are not aware whether any departure has been made. We know, however, that the Commissioners usually observe a rule in its exceptions. There may be a valid reason for the opposition to the viceregal verandah if the application be the first of its kind. Even if it were so, we must look to the reason of the rule and not its wording. If the verandah is no impediment and is an ornament, the Corporation should hail such a structure. Perhaps the neighbouring long range of verandah of the Great Eastern Hotel scares the Commissioners away. They had contracted beyond the law with the Company for a valuable consideration, and had allowed the structure which did not sanitarily improve the hotel premises, not for the beanty it added but for the monthly Rs. 100 it was to bring to the municipal fund. After having obtained the sanction and encroached, under it, the foot-path, the Company repudiated the contract as against the municipal law. The verandah still remains while the Company are absolved from the obligation of the monthly payment. Perhaps we are not right in introducing the other verandah. The Commissioners, following that precedent, have no objection to, in fact they have sanctioned, one-storyed verandah for the new buildings. The length of the suspension structure may probably be in its way.

We respect the feeling that would make no distinction between the great and the small in any application of law or rule. As a constitutional ruler, Lord Elgin may not act upon the slight shewn him by the rejection of the request. But as an Oriental we cannot view with unconcern the degradation of the highest personage in the empire. It is not the rejection but the manner of it that is most reprehensible.

In loyalty to the building regulations the Commissioners would not grant the Viceregal request. Are they as true to them always? Have they never allowed a structure against the byelaws? We wish some one will call for such instances of breach of byelaws. They were afraid of a precedent in the sanction of the present application. There is not another body so unmindful of the past as the Calcutta Corporation. Inconsistency is the rule with it.

We are afraid a crisis is approaching in our municipal affairs.

The Indian Association for the Cultivation of Science.

210, Bow-Bazar Street, Calcutta.

(Session 1895-96.)

Lecture by Babu Ram Chandra Datta, F.C.S., on Monday, the 29th inst., at 4-15 P. M. *Subject:* Compounds of Sulphur with Oxygen.

Lecture by Dr. Nilratan Sarkar, M.A., M.D., on Monday, the 29th or bi-w[illegible] at 6 to 8 P. M. *Subjects*: Practical Zoology—The Pigeon. Zoology [illegible]erata.

The circular[illegible] Babu Ram Chandra Datta, F.C.S., on Wednesday, the 31st [illegible] on [illegible] *Subject:* Phosphorus and its Compounds with Hy[illegible].

[illegible]Rajendra Nath Chatterjee, M.A., on Wednesday, [illegible]. *Subject:* Methods of determining specific [illegible]estwa[illegible]uids.

[illegible]8 [illegible]ra Datta, F.C.S., on Friday, the 2nd Aug. [illegible]tion and metallurgy of the metals.

[illegible]M A, M D., on Friday, the 2nd Aug. [illegible] Physiology—Carbo-Hydrates.

[illegible]nd Rs. 4 for Chemistry; Rs. 6 for [illegible]s. 4 for Physiology; Rs. 4 for [illegible]arse of Physiology and Biology.

[illegible]ics.

[illegible]s [illegible] LAL SIRCAR, M.D.,

[illegible]or *Honorary Secretary.*

Letter to the Editor.

THE LATE REVD. K. M. BANERJEE.

SIR,—This morning I received the following insulting letter, which, I hope, you will kindly publish in your next issue with such comments thereon as may seem fit to you.

"73, Lower Circular Road,
July 25, 1895.

SIR,—When you sent me the first volume of your book, I bought it to encourage a fellow country-man, and I was both astonished and deeply grieved to read the scandalous way in which you have put my father forward to ridicule; what you have now written you should have had the courage to write when Dr. Banerjee was alive, instead of sneaking out after his death. I am surprised also that you should have taken the liberty to write about my father and us at all during our life-time. If I refused you matter for my father's life, it should have been sufficient as a man of honour to keep you from meddling with my father's name. On your own admission I can get a case against you, and I beg now that in future editions, you will be pleased to strike out Dr. Banerjee's name altogether. You have taken an unwarrantable liberty.

Yours faithfully,
M. WHEELER"

For my part I refrain from making any harsh remark upon this letter. I simply ask Mrs. Wheeler, would she have dared write such a letter to a European author? As the daughter of Dr. Banerjee for whom I entertained a very great respect, and whom all Indian people respect, I should not write anything in any public journal against her.

Yours faithfully,
RAM GOPAL SANYAL,
Author of "Reminiscenes and Anecdotes of Great Men of India."

Taltolla,
July 25, 1895.

THE NATIVE PRESS OF INDIA.

By An Anglo-Indian.

"I confess that since my arrival in India nothing has filled me with such astonishment, nothing has so disheartened me, nothing has made me feel so deeply how great are the difficulties of Government in this country, as insinuations which have appeared in certain organs of the Press with regard to this subject. When the Government of India has succeeded, after many years of persistent effort, in obtaining a re-examination of the conditions of the India Civil Service, it is indeed a matter for surprise that there should be found, I will not say amongst you, for I am happy to think that you have repudiated so unworthy an insinuation, but amongst some of those who represent themselves as the guides and leaders of Indian public opinion, men so incapable of appreciating what has been the character of English Rule and of its English representatives, as to assert in the face of their countrymen that the only object of the Government of India in appointing the Civil Service Commission has been to deceive the people of India and to resort to a base, mean, and abominable trick for the purpose of restricting still further the privileges of those who are so justly anxious to serve our Sovereign in the Civil Service of their country." (Extract from Lord Dufferin's speech to the Poona Sabha, 19 November, 1886.)

The hostile attitude of a certain section of the native press towards the ruling class in India which called forth the words quoted above and which is, if possible, more marked at the present time than it was in Lord Dufferin's day, affords a striking example of the difficulty of attempting to govern India on the advanced principles of the West. The hope apparently entertained by Lord Ripon that the semi-educated university graduates who in a large measure compose the journalistic class in India would wield, with honesty and moderation, the power entrusted to them by the repeal of the Press Act has unfortunately not been realized. The voice of the native press has again become loud and menacing. Several organs are nothing more than mere mouth-pieces for outbursts of hatred and contempt of British rule. By their agency class feeling is aroused among an ignorant and superstitious population to such an extent, that otherwise peaceful citizens are found flying at each other's throats, as happened two years ago in many parts of India at the festival of the *'Id*, and as will happen again on the first occasion that the precautionary measures of the authorities are in any way relaxed.

The scandal is a great and growing one and in no other country in the world would the existing state of things be tolerated. A conviction, however, is gradually gaining ground that the day is not far distant when the Government will be reluctantly compelled to resort to remedial legislation. Three years ago it was considered necessary to withdraw the freedom of the press in places administered by the Governor-General but not forming part of British India proper, owing to the steady increase of scurrilous journals of the lowest type in these districts; and unless native Editors in British India are prepared to take warning by the fate which has befallen their brethern in native states and to confine themselves to fair and honest criticism of the acts of their rulers, it is by no means improbable that many of them will sooner or later find themselves in a similar predicament.

The freedom of the press in India was first established by law in 1835 by Sir Charles Metcalfe, then provisional Governor-General. It is true that the newspapers of the period were almost exclusively Anglo-Indian. The native journals could be counted on the fingers of one hand and were small and altogether unimportant, none boasting of a circulation exceeding two or three hundred copies per issue. The law, however, recognised no distinction between the two sections of the press, and the freedom then granted applied equally to all publications whether conducted by Anglo Indian or by native Editors, whether in English or in the vernaculars. This freedom the vernacular press continued to enjoy until the days of the mutiny, when, on the outbreak of hostilities in 1857, it at once became evident that only the prompt adoption of rigorous measures could prevent it from developing into an organ of treason. The authorities were equal to the occasion. A law was quickly passed rescinding the liberty of the vernacular section of the press, and giving to the Executive summary powers to prevent the circulation of any matter calculated to add fuel to the already rapidly spreading flame of rebellion. Several native Editors were imprisoned, and many presses in different parts of the country were confiscated. It was originally intended that this law should remain in force for one year only, but its actual repeal did not take place until 1868. The vernacular press was once more free; but the lesson of the mutiny was still fresh in the memory of all, and up to 1872 there was practically little fault to be found with it. Occasionally, it is true, Government was compelled to mark its displeasure at the tone of some particular print, but, on the whole, the press was distinctly on the side of loyalty and morality.

About that period a great impetus was given to education in India. Its advantages began to be in some measure recognised and in the growing demand for knowledge the press found increased encouragement and support. In some districts Government itself subscribed largely to the vernacular press, distributing the newspapers among the schools in the hope of further stimulating this desire for knowledge. As the spread of education increased, however, the supply of semi-educated natives soon exceeded the demand. Men began to find that as a means of obtaining a livelihood their education was in a great measure useless. Except in the service of Government there were few careers in which the training acquired in the Government colleges was of much practical value, and the number of those who could reasonably hope to obtain employment under Government, though large in itself, was small when compared with the supply. "You have educated us, you must employ us," was their constant cry. It was, of course, impossible that Government, however willing it might be, could find employment for all the graduates whom the schools and colleges were turning out. The result, as might be expected, was much discontent in the ranks of this half-educated class. Many of them turned to the press as a means of earning a living. During the years 1873—1887, the number and circulation of the vernacular newspapers largely increased, more particularly in Bengal where the number of publications was nearly doubled, and it was only natural that these men should pour into the columns of their papers what they considered their grievances. Had they stopped at that, no harm and some good might have resulted; but unfortunately they did not. The loyalty which on the whole had characterised the vernacular press gradually gave place to language calculated to excite bitter hatred and contempt of British rule. Editors became advocates and promoters of sedition. Individual Members of the Government were grossly libelled and held up to merciless ridicule and contempt. Vernacular papers in the hands of unscrupulous editors were used to intimidate and to extort money from our feudatories and native subjects. It was clear that this state of things could no longer be tolerated. The opinions of this class were of themselves of little importance, and it could be easily dealt with should occasion arise; but the Government of the day was determined that the machinery of the press should not be employed to spread disloyalty and distrust of British rule among the people of the land. It was reluctant to interfere with the freedom of the press, but the policy of non-intervention could no longer be maintained, and in 1878 an Act was passed by Lord Lytton's Government which completely gagged the vernacular press. Printers and publishers were required to enter into a bond binding themselves not to print in any vernacular publication "words or signs or visible representations likely to create disaffection to the Government established by law in British India or antipathy between persons of different races, castes, religions or sects" nor to use, nor to attempt to use, any newspaper for purposes of intimidation or extortion. The object aimed at was thus effectually accomplished: the disloyal and seditious utterances of a small class could no longer be communicated through the medium of the press to masses too ignorant to judge of their worthlessness. Unfortunately this "gagging act," as it was commonly called, remained in force for only three years. It was repealed in 1882 by Lord Ripon, who earned for himself a cheap popularity at the expense of sound administration; and but little time elapsed before the gravity of the error committed was fully apparent.

So far I have endeavoured to sketch, in as condensed a form as possible, the past history of the native press; and before proceeding to discuss its present extent and influence, a few remarks of a general nature, on the intellectual development of the people with whom the press has to deal, may not be altogether out of place. In the rapid advance towards western civilization in India during the last decade the fact th
educated class bear but a very insignificant propo
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standing the great impetus to education, igno
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their acres have long ceased to afford adequate support to their increased number. Extreme poverty is the lot of a numerous class; yet they abhor change of any kind, and view it with a superstitious dread hardly imaginable. I cannot better convey an idea of the incredible ignorance prevalent among this great rural population, than by quoting the following extract from the official Gazette of the Government of India, dated 27th June 1887. It is by the pen of an intelligent native official and describes graphically the difficulties besetting the path of progress in this country.

"The following cases, which came under my personal observations, will fairly illustrate the hopeless ignorance of the majority of village populations in this country. It was at Muhammadabad Post Office, in Azamgarh district, I was one afternoon sitting under a tree close to the Post Office talking to some Tahsil and police officials who had called to see me. The letter-box (a big, square, newly painted, red one, with a big, long, projecting mouth-piece) was lying at a distance of about 20 yards from where we were sitting, waiting to be built up in the wall. A villager approached with a letter in his hand and inquired where he was to place it. The letter-box was pointed out to him. He went up to the box, took off his shoes at a little distance from it, folded his hands reverently, put his letter in the box, bowed low before it and placed 2 coppers on the ground; retreated a few steps with face towards the box (walking backwards), again bowed very low, then put on his shoes and walked away. I did not discover that he had left 2 coppers on the ground close to the letter-box till some time after he had left. In another case I saw a man drop a letter into the letter-box and then putting his lips close to the mouth of the box, calling aloud (very loud) that the letter was to go to Rewah as if somebody was sitting inside the box to hear and carry out his wishes. . . . Numerous other cases of ignorance of this nature have occasionally come under my observation, but those mentioned above are quite sufficient to show what class of people we have to deal with in rural parts."

The town population is naturally many stages in advance of that of the villages, but even here it cannot be said that education has made much way among the masses.

In painting this somewhat gloomy picture of the intellectual attainments of the people of India, I do not wish to appear to minimize the results that have already been achieved in this direction. Much has been done both by the State and by the people themselves. The extent to which education has become popularized may be gathered from the fact that during the decade ending 1892-93, the annual expenditure under this head from all sources rose from 186 to 229 lakhs, while the total number of educational institutions increased from 109,085 to 144,699, and the number of pupils from 2·8 millions to 3·8 millions. These facts suffice to show the success which has attended our educational system in India. Readily admitting however that in the face of great difficulties much progress has been made, what I submit, is, that the results are comparatively small in proportion to the vastness of the population. The census returns of 1891 show that only 12½ million adults of both sexes are able to read and write, so that the percentage of those who possess the merest rudiments of education is very low. If we proceed a step further and take as our standard the entrance examination at the Universities of Calcutta, Bombay and Madras, we find that out of 70,000 candidates for matriculation during the five years ending with 1891 only 34 per cent. were successful; while if we go yet further we find that only 1 in every 10 candidates for matriculation succeeded in obtaining a degree; and of these, it must be remembered, only a limited few attain a standard which will bear comparison with western ideas of progress. These facts should be carefully borne in mind in any discussion regarding the freedom of the native press of India.

I now proceed to consider the native press as it exists in the present day. Owing to the ephemeral character of many native prints it is a matter of some difficulty to ascertain with accuracy the actual number of papers in existence; but I believe that there are at the present time some 350 newspapers proper published under native management. Most of these are in the Vernacular, but a few are conducted in English, while others are in both E nd Vernacular. The Majority of these are weekly o kly, the number of daily papers being under twenty. 1 ulation is greater in Bengal than in other parts of t on an average it does not exceed 800 to 900 [illegible] Sir W. Hunter in his Imperial Gazetteer [illegible]ly circulation of native papers at about [illegible]culation has increased considerably during [illegible]t the present time cannot be less than [illegible]8 millions a year: in other words, [illegible]8 can read and write; and they th[illegible]tween them. It must, however, [illegible]d not merely the subscribers, [illegible]paper; and it is probable that [illegible]as numerous as the latter. [illegible]lieve that the practice of [illegible]s for the benefit of those [illegible]ommon, so that the true circulation of the native papers is very much larger than might at first sight appear.

The first native newspaper was published in Bengali by the Serampur Mission Press in 1818; and for many years the native press retained the stamp of its early origin; but at the present time, with the exception of a few of the Madras papers, it is almost entirely devoted to the discussion of political questions. In addition to the newspapers proper there are a considerable number of magazines and pamphlets, but the majority of these are politically unimportant. In the front rank of native papers are the *Dainik* and the *Bangobasi*, Bengali papers of Calcutta, which are under one management, the *Dainik* being published on the first five days of the week and the *Bangobasi* on the sixth. The circulation of these two papers hugely exceeds that of any other paper in India: that of the former is about 6000 daily and that of the latter averages 23,000. Other well known Calcutta papers are the *Hindu Patriot*, the *Bengali*, the *Amrita Bazar Patrika*, the *Reis and Rayyet* and the *Indian Mirror*. The chief exponents of native opinion in Bombay are the *Indian Spectator*, the *Bombay Samachar*, and the *Jam-i Jamshed*. In Madras the *Hindu*, and Upper India the *Akbbar-am* of Lahore and the *Bharat Jiwan* of Benares are the most deserving of mention. The native papers are of course small, few containing as much matter as is found in a single page of a London daily. While however it must be admitted that the native press is still in its infancy, it is only necessary to turn to to the last official report on the working of the Indian Post-office to be convinced that the circulation of newspapers is increasing at a very rapid rate. The figures given by the post office, though they necessarily fall far short of showing the actual circulation, give a very fair idea of the rate at which this circulation is extending throughout the country. The figures I quote include Anglo-Indian papers; but there is every reason to believe that the rapid expansion indicated is rather due to increase activity in the native press, owing to extra facilities introduced in 1881 for the despatch of light newspapers through the post, than to any very marked increase in the number of Anglo-Indian newspapers. Taking 100 to represent the number of newspapers (excluding European papers), given out for delivery in 1883-84 the table in the foot note* shows the rate of increase during the last ten years. In 1883-84 the number of newspapers in circulation in India (excluding those exchanged with Europe) stood at 13 millions; and in 1892-93, ten years later, this total had risen to over 24 millions. These figures prove very clearly that the circulation of newspapers is increasing at a very rapid rate; but as we have just stated, they naturally fall far short of the number actually in circulation.

A few of the native newspapers are conducted with ability and moderation; but too many are the mouthpieces of men whom it would be mere affectation to credit with any true feeling of loyalty towards the ruling power in this country; and their demoralizing influence on the ignorant cannot be questioned. They deal in no restrained sentiments, but denounce our rule boldly and with peculiar bitterness. Many of the editors stand so deeply committed as advocates and promoters of sedition that they spare no pains to misrepresent the actions of the Government, and to this end no falsehood is too glaring, no exaggeration too gross but will serve to poison the minds of their too credulous readers. On the other hand it must be remembered that to supply antidotes to the poisoned weapons of the native press or to effectually expose the forgeries and misstatements, in which many native writers indulged is completely out of the power of the Government, while a moment's reflection cannot but convince any dispassionate thinker that the unchecked growth of sedition and its free circulation through the medium of the press must inevitably tend to undermine the loyalty and attachment of the people of India to the British crown. The Anglo-Indian press has, for some years past, endeavoured to draw the attention of the Government to the growing magnitude of this evil. The *Pioneer*, a leading journal, has frequently commented, in strong terms, on the evil effects which result from the unbridled license of the native press. "The official," is stated on one occasion, "is abused in terms of reckless vituperation and, in many instances, is deterred from conscientiously doing his duty. The minds of the people are poisoned against their rulers and it is obvious to the most careless observer that the hostile attitude of the press and its disgraceful license are every day rendering the administration more difficult." These views are moreover fully shared by the more respectable portion of the native press itself, and are, in fact, held by almost every man who has at heart the welfare and prosperity of our Indian Empire.

Let us now examine briefly the main grounds on which it is

* 1883-84...100, 1884-85...111, 1885-86...134, 1886-87 145, 1887-88...146, 1888-89...150, 1889-90...153, 1890-91...165, 1891-92...183, 1892-93...186.

reasonable to suppose that the present policy of non-interference with the freedom of the native press is based. They are three. Firstly, an impression that the circulation of the papers is small and that what is written never reaches the masses. The true circulation, however, is, as I have already shown, very much larger than would at first sight appear; and though the number of native newspapers in circulation per annum does not exceed 18 millions, the number of readers is probably four or five times as great. Secondly, a conviction that these papers are so many safety valves, carrying off much that would otherwise accumulate dangerously near the surface, and which, if deprived of an exit, might lead to the formation of secret societies on a large scale. This argument, however, loses much of its force when it is remembered that the contributors to the press are confined to an extremely small class,---a class which those most capable of forming an opinion declare to be completely out of touch with the masses, and profoundly indifferent to their welfare. With regard to the latter part of the argument, it is sufficient to observe that secret societies exist in countries which enjoy a free press, equally with those in which its freedom is materially curtailed; and that they will exist in India on a formidable scale only when discontent has spread itself among the masses, a state of things which the native press is doing its best to promote. Thirdly, a belief that it is preferable to ignore the evil than to interfere with the liberty of the press. Those who entertain this opinion appear to lose sight of the fact that all the usual arguments in favour of the free press fall to the ground when the very backward state of the population, to which reference has already been made, is taken into consideration. Wrong opinions no doubt yield to fact and arguments when in course of time facts and arguments are brought face-to face with them; but in the India of to-day how is this to be accomplished? The people in India, born amid the ruins of an ancient civilization, are still in the very cradle of western progress; and their welfare is far safer in the hands of a wise and benevolent, if despotic, Government than it would be in their own. So long as this state of things exists, so long as the maintenance of absolute power in this country is a recognized necessity, there can be no question that to allow the seeds of sedition and disloyalty to be shown broad-cast by the native press is in the highest degree impolitic, and must ultimately be productive of grave political consequences completely throwing into the shade any advantages which a free native press might otherwise confer on the country.

It has been suggested from more than one quarter that the obvious cure for the evil is to put into force the ordinary law of libel; but the inadequacy of the existing law in such cases was clearly established on the occasion of the State prosecution of the *Bangobasi*, which, a year or two ago in the controversy over the Age of Consent Bill, exceeded the bounds of all legitimate criticism. Moreover it is unfortunately easier to set the ball rolling than to stop it; and the opportunities given by such trials for the propagation of seditious matter in a great measure nullify any good results which a conviction might otherwise effect. In all cases of this nature, so long as we have to deal with a grossly ignorant and superstitious people, the object aimed at should be the suppression of seditious matter rather than the subsequent punishment of the offenders. This can only be secured by a partial revival of Lord Lytton's press policy: and the fact that this has not already been done is attributed by the natives of India not to a wish to avoid interference with the liberty of the subject which is one of the chief characteristics of the English nation, but simply to fear of the consequences of interfering with a liberty once conceded. It would not, of course, be necessary to withdraw the freedom of the native press generally. An Act might be framed on similar lines to the Press Act of 1878 empowering the Governor-General in Council to bring any *bona fide* native newspaper, irrespective of the language in which it is published, under the operation of its clauses by a simple Gazette Notification to that effect. Confining this power to the Governor-General in Council would be an absolute guarantee that no unnecessary or unreasonable interference with the freedom of any particular paper would be permitted. Criticism of a fair and legitimate character is essential to all progress; but carried to its present extent it cannot but exercise a harmful and disturbing influence on the country.

In India where, as we have already seen, education of any kind is confined within such narrow limits, its value is naturally greatly enhanced; and probably no society in the world has ever been so entirely at the mercy of this small class which regards itself as entitled by its entellectual superiority to dictate its opinions to others, as are the people of India of the present day. The unreflecting, the vast majority who possess neither the energy nor the knowledge to sift the wheat from the chaff, are entirely at the mercy of self-constituted leaders, men, for the most part, too young and inexperienced to lead their countrymen with any safety along the path of political reform. No doubt the spread of knowledge is progressing rapidly throughout the land; but many years must necessarily elapse before the evils of mental slavery can be said to be non-existent, or before the free exercise of individual judgment is, in any sense, a reality; and until such time arrives it is clearly th duty of Government to protect, as far as possible, the uneducatec masses from the false and seditious doctrines of men who, whethed from lack of intelligence to grasp the true character of England'r work in this country, or from self-interested and spiteful motivess spare no pains to throw odium on the Government which has fostered them and which in return they are now doing their utmost to embarrass. "If the Indian Government" as Sir Lepel Griffin very justly remarks in his article "*India in* 1895" which appeared in the April number of this Review, "be too timid to protect itself from open sedition and too ungenerous to defend its servants against false and malicious misrepresentation, it has surrendered one of the elementary principles of a civilized government, popular or autocratic, and deserves the fate which attends on all rulers who do not know how to govern."

Simla, April 22, 1895.

ONLY FOUR TO MAN THE PUMPS.

DEAR, dear! When you come to think of it how closely related things are; how one thing brings up another. Ideas are like a lot of beads on a string, aren't they?

A letter I have just been reading makes me remember what happened to me one winter about twenty years ago. The story is too long to tell here, so I'll merely give you the tail end of it. I was supercargo on a bark bound from London to Rio. A tremendous gale, lasting five days, wrecked us. Forty-eight hours after it ceased there were four men and no more left on the vessel. The captain had been killed by a falling spar, three of the crew washed overboard, and the rest of the ship's company (save us four) went away in the long boat with the first and second mates. We were taking in water through a leak at the rate of six inches an hour. Working with all our might the four of us could pump that out in forty minutes, but we must do it every hour. It was awful work. For two days we kept it up, without sleep. Then we stopped, took to the quarter boat and shoved off. The sea was quiet—no wind. While we lay to within a mile of her the ship threw up her nose and went down stern first. We were picked up the next day by a Danish brig.

Now the odd thing is that the letter which reminded me of that experience has nothing whatever to say about ships. Please help me to find out the association.

The lady who writes the letter says that in July, 1881, she got a bad fright. Exactly what it was she doesn't tell. I wish she did. Anyway it so upset her that she didn't get over the effects of it for nine years. After that her appetite fell off; she lost all real relish for food, and what she did eat only made trouble instead of nourishing her. It gave her pain in the pit of the stomach and (curiously enough) between the shoulders. She says her eyes and skin presently turned yellow as a buttercup. Her face and abdomen swelled, and her feet the same, the latter so much so that she was obliged to have her shoes made larger.

"I got little sleep at night," she says, "and was in so much pain I had to be propped up with pillows. For weeks together I could not lie down in bed. I had a dry, hollow cough, and bad night sweats. Then diarrhœa set in, and my bowels became ulcerated. I was often in dreadful agony for forty-eight hours at a time. Then I would have a chill as though a bucket of cold water were poured down my back. I got so lo[illegible] and [illegible] longer sew, knit, or do any housework or look after [illegible] children. My sister had to come and help in the house.

"Everybody said I was in a decline and must die. What I suffered for eight years tongue cannot tell. The doctor could do nothing for me. He said my complaint was complicated and bad to deal with. In 1886 I went as an outdoor patient to the Shrewsbury Infirmary, but only got transient relief."

The writer is in good health now, but why did her case remind me of the shipwreck? Let's settle that first. The association is easy and natural. Just see. The ship sank because we four men hadn't the strength to pump out the water as fast as it came in. Twenty men might have got her into port. It is the last straw that breaks the camel's back; the last unsupplied need that makes poverty abject and desperate.

These bodies of ours carry the seeds of disease with them all the time—chiefly the poisons created by imperfect digestion, made worse by careless habits. But as long as nothing extraordinary happens we manage to scrape along in a half-and-half sort of fashion. Yet we've got in our blood the stuff that any of a dozen diseases is made of, only waiting for something to set it afire. While the liver, kidneys, lungs and skin keep us fairly free—that is, don't let the load get too heavy—we say, "Oh, yes, I'm tolerably well, thank you." Little pains and unpleasant symptoms bother us now and then, but we don't fancy they mean anything.

By-and-by something happens. A cold, too hearty a meal, a nig[illegible] of dissipation, an affliction through death or loss of [illegible] as in Mrs Bunce's case, &c. Over we go. The [illegible] us. One loose spark has blown up the barrel [illegible] too small to save the ship. The kidneys [illegible] strike work, and we must have help right [illegible] means the explosion of latent indigestio[illegible] blood.

There! isn't it plain why I thou[illegible] clusion of the lady's story. She s[illegible] Seigel's Curative Syrup. Half [illegible] keeping on taking it I was soon [illegible] Ann Bunce, The Park, Wor[illegible] 1893."

If there were only a way [illegible] worthy as Mother Seigel's [illegible] bodies, what a blessing it [illegible]

DROIT ET AVANT.

Reis and Rayyet

(PRINCE & PEASANT)

WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

VOL. XIV. CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, AUGUST 3, 1895 WHOLE NO. 686.

CONTEMPORARY POETRY.

LINES TO THE EX-QUEEN OF THE FRENCH.

AN act of true heroism should not pass unnoticed, in any age. The ex-queen of the French, who, in spite of the errors and unpopularity of her husband's government, has always preserved the respect of the French people, from her sincere piety and virtues, was, it is well known, most adverse to her husband assuming the sceptre.

How is the case changed now! Her arm supported the tottering old man, after his abdication, to the carriage which was in attendance. Her courage alone sustained him. This is well known; but it is not so generally understood that she would have prevented his abdicating at all, and, while others were giving the most fatal counsel, she alone spoke before the king with the heroic words, "C'est le devoir d'un roi de mourir parmi son peuple" Though not much of a poet, I have endeavoured to fix public attention on a circumstance which I think deserves neither to be overlooked nor forgotten.

The scene to which I have made allusion, and which I have the best authority for believing to be founded strictly on fact, occurred on the morning of the 24th of February. So rapid and unforeseen was the flight of the royal family, that although they were assembled to take their déjeuner à la fourchette at the usual time, before an hour had elapsed not one of them was left in the Tuileries. Not only did the queen remonstrate; it is stated that the officers in command were confident of the fidelity and honour of the army. Thus the weakness of a moment may imperil the destinies of the world!

Gentlest of mothers! on that fatal day
When Orleans, still uncrowned, in bitter doubt
Was weakly yielding, thine was it to stay
Ambition's voice, and hush the maddening shout
Of bad excitements; thine 't was to shut out
All from thy husband's breast but one small voice,
The voice of conscience and of truth, without
Such aids, saidst thou, ill fortune guides thy choice.
Oh! had he hearken'd then, will might he now rejoice.

But 't was not so; for statecraft gained the day,
And she who now reposes in the grave*—
Peace to her ashes!—o'er thy lord held sway,
And men cried out, "Magnanimous and brave!"
The softer counsel which affection gave
Unheeded past; and, haply, out of sight,
Thou shedd'st thy tears—all impotent to save,
But future witnesses, when known aright,
Of virtue's modest ways, which shun day's garish light.

Old ocean thus, in calm and placid mood,
Is softest of imaginable things,
In peaceful glory, by no zephyrs woo'd,
Whereto, as to a mirror, nature brings
Bright forms, and there reflects the spreading wings
Of myriad argosies; there in his joy
The giddy schoolboy makes his mimic rings—
Emblems, which still the poet may employ,
Of that vain glory which attain'd begins to cloy.

Yet can this self-same ocean, toss'd on high,
Be fierce and direful as devouring flame,
Raising his tumid billows to the sky,
And threatening heaven itself—the very frame
Of earth now yields—the floods their empire claim,
Is this the lake which but of late we knew
Reposing sweetly, spiritless and tame,
Fair as a sleeping beauty—gentle too—
Which now its wrath so dire would give us cause to rue?

Noblest of queens! not altered less thy mien
In the last crisis of thy destiny,
When thou erect and firm alone wert seen,
Thy husband's stay, no tear upon thine eye!
Thou could'st the anger of the mob defy;
Age had not bowed thy spirit nor thy heart;
For conscious virtue can on self rely.
When coward counsels spoke the word, "*Depart*,"
'T was thou, and thou alone, couldst act a heroine's part.

Dastardly spirits! couldst thou say to those,
Even to thy children, kneeling round the throne,
Who rather timid wavering counsels chose
Than the proud conduct which was all thine own—
Better to die a monarch, and alone,
By treacherous friends deserted, than to fly!
Like Cæsar, thou the height of power hast known,
Dare then, like him, each traitor to defy,
And learn, like Cæsar too, with dignity to die.

Naples, fair land of luxury and ease!
Where pleasure dwells, and virtues stern decay,
Where the bright vineyards and the placid seas
Teach a degenerate race to while away
Their wanton hours, and waste the livelong day—
Blithe self-sown children of the teeming earth—
Oh! 'mid a race so thoughtless and so gay,
If test of excellence be moral worth,
France may well envy thee at least one heroine's birth

—*The Spectator.*

* Madame Adelaide.

DEAFNESS. An essay describing a really genuine Cure for Deafness, Singing in Ears, &c, no matter how severe or long-standing, will be sent post free.—Artificial Ear-drums and similar appliances entirely superseded. Address THOMAS KEMPE, VICTORIA CHAMBERS, 19, SOUTHAMPTON BUILDINGS, HOLBORN, LONDON.

Subscribers in the country are requested to remit by postal money orders, if possible, as the safest and most convenient medium, particularly as it ensures acknowledgment through the Department. No other receipt will be given, any other being unnecessary and likely to cause confusion.

WEEKLYANA.

TENNYSON has spoken of Her Majesty as mother, wife and queen. She is more. The *Court Circular* announces that Her Majesty has been much distressed by the death of one of her personal Highland attendants, Mr. Francis Clark, a cousin of the late Mr. John Brown. A most faithful and devoted servant, he had been twenty-five years in her service. He had occasionally officiated for Brown and then succeeded him.

***

HER Majesty has presented a silver medal to the Russian railway guard in attendance upon the Prince of Wales, during his journey through Russia, at the time of the death of the late Czar.

***

FOR services to Welsh literature and the Eisteddfod, the Queen has granted from the royal bounty 100*l.* to the venerable Hwfa Mon, the Arch Druid of Wales.

***

ON July 9, the Duchess of Teck, with the Hon. Mary Thesiger and the Hon. A. Nelson Hood in attendance, opened the new Homœopathic Hospital in Great Ormond Street. The same fair hand, two years back, had laid the foundation stone. The building, with site and equipment, has cost 45,000*l.* An anonymous donor gave 10,000*l.*, and in all 35,000*l.* has been raised. The hospital contains 100 beds and can receive 300 out-patients.

***

THE Royal Commission on Indian Expenditure runs in these words:—

"Whitehall, May 30, 1895.

The Queen has been pleased to issue a Commission under Her Majesty's Royal Sign Manual to the following effect:

VICTORIA, R. I.

Victoria, by the Grace of God, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, Queen, Defender of the Faith, Empress of India, etc., to—

Our right trusty and well-beloved Reginald Earle, Baron Welby, Knight Grand Cross of Our Most Honourable Order of the Bath;

Our right trusty and well-beloved Councillor, Leonard Henry Courtney;

Our right trusty and well-beloved Councillor, William Lawies Jackson;

Our trusty and well-beloved George Nathaniel Curzon, Esquire, commonly called the Honourable George Nathaniel Curzon;

Our trusty and well-beloved Sir William Wedderburn, Baronet;

Our trusty and well-beloved Sir Donald Martin Stewart, Baronet, Knight Grand Cross of Our Most Honourable Order of the Bath, Knight Grand Commander of Our Most Exalted Order of the Star of India, Companion of Our Most Eminent Order of the Indian Empire, Field Marshal of Our Forces, Member of the Council of India;

Our trusty and well-beloved Sir Edward Walter Hamilton, Knight Commander of Our Most Honourable Order of the Bath, Assistant Secretary to the Commissioners of Our Treasury for Great Britain and Ireland;

Our trusty and well-beloved Sir James Braithwait Peile, Knight Commander of Our Most Exalted Order of the Star of India, Member of the Council of India;

Our trusty and well-loved Sir Andrew Richard Scoble, Knight Commander of Our Most Exalted Order of the Star of India, one of Our Council learned in the Law;

Our trusty and well-beloved Ralph Henry Knox, Esquire, Companion of Our Most Honourable Order of the Bath, Accountant-General of Our Army;

Our trusty and well-beloved George Risle Ryder, Esquire, Companion of Our Most Honourable Order of the Bath;

Our trusty and well-beloved Thomas Ryburn Buchanan, Esquire, Barrister-at-law;

Our trusty and well-beloved William Sporston Caine, Esquire; and

Our trusty and well-beloved Dadabhai Naoroji, Esquire, Greeting—

Whereas We have deemed it expedient that a Commission should forthwith issue to enquire into the administration and management of the Military and Civil expenditure incurred under the authority of the Secretary of State for India in Council, or of the Government of India, and the apportionment of charge between the Governments of the United Kingdom and of India for purposes in which both are interested;

Now know ye that We, reposing great trust and confidence in your knowledge and ability, have authorized and appointed, and do by these Presents authorise and appoint, you, the said Reginald Earle, Baron Welby; Leonard Henry Courtney; William Lawies Jackson; George Nathaniel Curzon, commonly called the Honourable George Nathaniel Curzon; Sir William Wedderburn; Sir Donald Martin Stewart; Sir Edward Walter Hamilton; Sir James Braithwaite Peile; Sir Andrew Richard Scoble; Ralph Henry Knox; George Lisle Ryder; Thomas Ryburn Buchanan; William Sportston Caine: and Dadabhai Naoroji; to be Our Commissioners for the purposes of the said enquiry.

And for the better effecting the purposes of this Our Commission, We do by these Presents give and grant unto you or any five or more of you full power to call before you such persons as you shall judge likely to afford you any information upon the subject of this Our Commission; and also to call for, have access to and examine, all such books, documents, registers, and records, as may afford you the fullest information on the subject; and to inquire of and concerning the premises by all other lawful ways and means whatever.

And We do by these Presents will and ordain that this Our Commission shall continue in full force and virtue; and that you, Our said Commissioners or any five or more of you may from time to time proceed in the execution thereof and of every matter and thing therein contained, although the same be not continued from time to time by adjournment.

And We do further ordain that you or any five or more of you have liberty to report your proceedings under this Our Commission from time to time if you shall judge it expedient so to do.

And Our further will and pleasure is that you do with as little delay as possible report to us under your hands and seals or under the hands and seals of any five or more of you your opinion on the matters herein submitted for your consideration. And for the purpose of aiding you in your inquiries we hereby appoint our trusty and well-beloved Richmond Thackeray Willoughby Ritchie, Esquire, to be Secretary to this Our Commission.

Given at Our Court at Saint James's the twenty-fourth day of *May* one thousand eight hundred and ninety-five in the fifty eighth year of Our reign.

By Her Majesty's Command,
Henry H. Fowler."

It being no Parliamentary Committee, the General Elections and the unseating of Members have no effect on it, and Messrs. Caine and Dadabhai Naoraji continue members of the Commission.

***

THERE was a collection, for some national purpose, on the eightieth birthday of Prince Bismarck. At his suggestion, the money has been paid over to the Agrarian League in Berlin.

***

A PICTURE by Constable, a view on the Stour, one of the collection of the late Mr. C. F. Huth, was sold for 8,500 guineas.

***

FOR allowing the use of a room belonging to the municipality for an electoral meeting of the Social Democrats, the Burgomaster of Kolberg, in Pomerania, has been fined, by his official superior, ninety marks.

***

IN France, they have remitted all taxes on hygienic drinks. To make up the loss, the tax on alcohol has been raised to 275 frs.

***

THE French Chamber has authorized the Minister of the Interior to suppress newspapers published in France in a foreign tongue.

***

FOR his connection with the *Progrès*, a paper started with the express purpose of defending the policy of the agents of the British occupation and combating French policy, M. Campana, a French journalist in Cairo, has been expelled from Egypt.

***

PRINTING was known to the Romans as early as the second century. Such is the discovery of M. Adrian Diaconu, a Hungarian architect and antiquarian, who has found in the ruins of the ancient Roman camp of Bersovia, at Bogsan, near Temesvar, unmistakable evidence that the Romans and, in particular, the officers of the Fourth Legion (Flavia Felix) made use of movable types while encamped at Bersovia.

***

MM. Renard and Houzeau named their new explosive compound of ozone and benzene "Ozobenzene." It is insoluble in chloroform, ether or petroleum, and dissolvable in crystallisable acetic ether. It detonates when in contact with ammonia, or concentrated sulphuric acid and other bodies, or when suddenly heated to fifty degrees Cent., but not if slowly heated.

***

THE constantly recurring currant question in Greece, or how to remedy the distress of the currant-growing provinces, is still unsolved. Several proposals have been made from time to time. One of them, not accepted last year, was to destroy at the time of exportation a portion of each currant shipment in order to raise the market value of the remainder. Recently, the Greek Chamber discussed the same remedy which was again rejected, though by only one vote. In several districts people are said to be starving, and there is apprehension of a revolt by refusal to pay the taxes from sheer inability.

MR. K. G. Gupta, Excise Commissioner, Bengal, has taken leave for two months and twenty-five days.

***

SAHEBZADA Muhammad Bukhtyar Shah has been appointed a visitor of the Presidency Jail. To mark his satisfaction at the event in his life, and in all gratefulness, he entertained the Lieutenant Governor to conjuring tricks and Chunamgully music

***

AN examination of candidates for recruiting the staff of the superior Police officers in Bengal and Assam will be held in Calcutta in November. Only such European candidates as have been nominated by the Lieutenant Governor of Bengal will be permitted to appear.

***

THE Anglo-phobe *Journal Egyptien* of Alexandria thus introduces Captain Lugard.

"It will be remarked that Captain Lugard, the horrible Uganda butcher, is appointed Companion of the Bath—of blood."

***

ONE of the caissons of the great bridge which is being constructed at Nag el-Hamid went down and sank with forty workmen.

***

AT Bristol, Indiana, a bridge crowded with six hundred people watching a boat race, suddenly gave way. Forty persons were injured and several received wounds which may prove fatal.

***

DURING the year ending June 30, Western Australia exported 239,593 oz. of gold.

***

THE instinct of man has always recognized scents as valuable aids to enjoyment and, therefore, to health. They are now demonstrated to be useful allies of hygiene—powerful germ destroyers. Taking 100 bacteria, a French specialist tested how many would be destroyed in fortyeight hours when exposed at the temperature of 15 degs. Cent. to various essential oils and other perfumes. He found that essential oil of bitter almonds killed 99 of the micro-organisms, and oil of thyme the same number. Oil of cumin did away with 95 per cent.; mint, 93; wallflower, 92; neroli, 90; lemon, 88; lavender; 75; eucalyptus, 74; rosemary, 73; turpentine and camphor, 66. The place assigned to the last article is much lower than it holds in popular belief. Camphor is a very powerful agent. But then we are told the experiments were made with essences, and not with their spirituous or watery decoctions.

***

IN acknowledging the burgess ticket and casket containing the freedom of the City of Edinburgh presented for distinguished services as Governor of the colony of Victoria, Lord Hopetoun remarked that Lord Rosebery had in his recent colonial appointments gone outside the circle of his own followers to find the most suitable man and in so doing had set an example for future Prime Ministers.

***

AT a demonstration held, on July 10, in St. Andrews Hall, Glasgow, under the auspices of the Glasgow Liberal Council, Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman said:—

"In 1892 the country gave the Liberal Party a great mandate and the Liberal Government had striven up to the full measure of their strength to accomplish the task which was imposed upon them; but the means the country gave the Liberal Government in 1892 were not equal to the duty they put upon them. The lesson to be drawn from the history of the past three years was that heroic measures demand an heroic remedy. What had the Labour Party to do that they were content to play the part of jackal to the Tory lions? Did those gentlemen, who thought they had social ideals that were superior to those of the Liberal Party, think that their ideals could be advanced by supporting the Tory policy? Lord Salisbury the other day scouted the whole range of political changes which the Liberal Party advocated, and asked the country to set them aside, and to follow him into the mists of a nebulous social programme. He did not understand that the Labour Party objected to any one of these questions. He contended that it was the duty of the Labour Party, as it was of the Liberal Party, to protest against the monstrous assumption that it was Lord Salisbury and the Duke of Argyll, and the 500 men whom they led, who were to interpret the real feeling of the people. He appealed to them to do all in their power to put an end to this state of things once and for all."

The country is now willing to be led by Lord Salisbury and the Duke of Devonshire.

THE short-lived Rosebery Ministry, while it knighted an actor, a novelist, a poet and a journalist, was not unmindful of other claims to substantial reward. During the year ended June 20, 1895, £1,200 was granted in pensions charged to the Civil List, and distributed as follows:

"Dr. Christian Ginsburg, in recognition of the value of his researches into Biblical and Hebrew literature, 150*l*.; Miss Hester Pater and Miss Clara Pater, in consideration of the literary merits of their late brother, Mr. Walter Pater, 50*l*. each; Mrs. Mary Eugénie Hamerton, in consideration of the literary merits of her late husband, Mr. P. G. Hamerton, 100*l*.; Mr. William Watson, in consideration of the merit of his poetical works 100*l*.; Teresa, Lady Hamilton, in consideration of the public services of her late husband, Sir R. G. C. Hamilton, K. C. B., 150*l*.; Mary Agnes, Lady Seeley, in consideration of the literary merits of her late husband, Sir J. R. Seeley, K. C. M. G., Regius Professor of Modern History in the University of Cambridge, 100*l*., Mrs. Edith L. Pearson, in consideration of the literary merits of her late husband, Mr. Charles Henry Pearson, 100*l*; Marie, Lady Stewart, in consideration of the services of her late husband, Sir Robert Stewart, in the cultivation of music in Ireland, 50*l*.; Mr. George Augustus Sala, in consideration of his services to literature and journalism, 100*l*.; Mr. Alexander Bain, in consideration of his services in the promotion of mental and moral science, 100*l*.; Dr. James Hogg, in consideration of his scientific and medical services, 75*l*.; Mr. George Frederick Nicholl, in consideration of his merits as an Oriental scholar, 75*l*."

***

LORD and Lady Brassey were to have sailed on July 18, in the *Sunbeam*, for Australia.

***

ON his elevation to the peerage, Sir Henry Loch takes the little of Lord Loch of Drylaw.

***

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL N. C. Martelli, Indian Staff Corps, has been confirmed as Governor-General's Agent at Baroda from the 25th July, *vice* Colonel J. Biddulph, Indian Staff Corps. We hope Baroda will fare better than Bhurtpore under the Martelli guidance.

***

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL W. Loch, Indian Staff Corps, has been confirmed as Political Agent in the Eastern States of Rajputana.

***

THE Governor-General in Council has been pleased to remit the duty payable under the Indian Stamp Act (I of 1879) on instruments in the nature of a memorandum or agreement furnished to, or made or entered into with, the Forest Department by contractors for the due performance of their contracts.

***

SECONDHAND or used gunny bags imported into British India have been exempted from import duty.

***

IN supersession of the tariff values assigned to mule twist and yarn in No. 41 of Schedule IV (Import Tariff) of the Indian Tariff Act, 1894, the Governor-General in Council has directed that the said twist and yarn shall be assessed to import duty on the tariff values assigned in the said No. 44 of Schedule IV to mule and water twist and yarn.

***

JUDGMENT in the Budh-Gaya temple case was delivered on Friday the 29th July. The Magistrate acquitted the accused of the charges of actually defiling the Japanese image, of trespass in a place of worship with intent to wound the feelings of the Buddhists, and of unlawful assembly; but found three Sannyasis guilty under section 296 of the Indian Penal Code of voluntarily disturbing the Buddhists when lawfully engaged in their devotional worship, and sentenced them to one month's simple imprisonment and a fine of Rs. 100, in default fifteen days' simple imprisonment. An immediate application was made by Mr. Cotton to the Judge who admitted an appeal, and enlarged the accused on bail of Rs. 5 0 with one surety. Mr. Holmwood has since confirmed the conviction but reduced the sentence to a fine of Rs. 100 only. Mr. Ghose, Mr. Cotton and Mr. Stevens appeared for the appellants, and Sir Griffith Evans, Mr. Sutherland and Mr. Howard for Dharmapala. The final word must be pronounced by the High Court. For more remains behind.

***

MR. Tilly, District Magistrate of Rangoon, has sentenced Mr. Rice, Barrister, to six months' simple imprisonment for criminal breach of trust. An appeal has been lodged, and the Magistrate has accepted bails for three thousand rupees each.

NOTES & LEADERETTES,

OUR OWN NEWS,

&

THE WEEK'S TELEGRAMS IN BRIEF, WITH OCCASIONAL COMMENTS.

THE elections have closed, though the final results are yet not known here. The country has decidedly declared itself in favour of Conservative Government. Our Radical friends now console themselves with the feeling that the Salisbury Ministry will not last long. Parliament meets on the 12th. It is understood that the Cabinet has decided not to oppose the reelection of Mr. Gully as Speaker.

THE Queen herself decorated Surgeon-Captain Whichurch, of Chitral fame, with the Victoria Cross, at Osborne.

PRINCE Nasrullah Khan presented the Princess of Wales and her daughters with superb shawls, and the Duchess of York with a collection of furs. His departure for the Continent has been deferred, but the reason has not been stated.

ADVICES from Idaho state that an insurrection has broken out among the Indians in that territory, who have attacked and massacred seventy families at Jacksonhole.

A DISORDERLY scene occurred at the funeral of a private soldier in one of the British regiments stationed at Cairo. While on the way to the cemetery the party was attacked by a mob which hooted at and stoned the military escort. The affair has caused considerable excitement, and it is expected that the British Government will demand satisfaction for the insult offered.

A DISASTROUS accident happened to a train carrying 400 invalid soldiers from Hiroshima to Kobe. The line runs for some distance along the sea front, and the fore part of the train was thrown off the rails by breakers and capsized into the sea. One hundred and forty men were drowned.

THE Socialists have been utterly defeated at the elections for the French Councils-General.

IN the Italian Chamber of Deputies Signor Crispi declared that the plateau of Erythrea and the Tigre country belonged to Italy, and that the Italian Government was resolved to retain them. King Menelik, he said, was bound to uphold the treaty with Italy. Signor Ucciali was at the present moment in Africa, and Italy's true interests, he said, were to be defended.

Colonel Leontieff will accompany the Abyssinia Mission home, but the establishment of a permanent orthodox Mission in Abyssinia has been deferred, as King Menelik will not send a diplomatic Envoy to St Petersburgh.

IT is reported from Zanzibar that the entire Mymic tribe have revolted, and it is feared the movement will spread throughout the coast. Operations against the tribe will shortly begin, and an obstinate resistance is certain if their stronghold in the Shimba range is attacked. Two of the rebel chiefs have taken refuge with the chief Gazi, south of Mombasa. It is possible that a force will be necessary to compel the rebels to surrender, but no serious trouble is feared.

THE Hovas are secretly suing for peace, but, fearing a revolution, are massing their troops outside the capital. The anti-European feeling is increasing, and the British Consul has secretly enjoined all British subjects to leave the interior for the coast.

THE insurrectionary movement in Macedonia has collapsed, though there is still some desultory fighting on the frontier.

THE *Novoe Vremya* publishes a despatch from Vladivostock, stating that Japan is raising her army and fleet to a war footing, has blown up the fortifications of Port Arthur, and now intends to dominate Corea, and hold the King prisoner.

THE Blackburn Chamber of Commerce is sending a commercial mission to China to study the trade of the southern provinces.

THE *Moscow Gazette* discusses an eventual Russian campaign in India, which, though difficult, is perfectly possible, and even inevitable, if Great Britain persists in her hostility to Russia everywhere. Nevertheless, if England prefers a mutually beneficial *entente cordiale*, Russia is prepared to aid her to strengthen her dominion in Southern Asia, which Great Britain has insisted Russia is thwarting.

MR. Gladstone will address a meeting at Chester on the 6th of August on the Armenian question. The Duke of Westminster will preside, and several influential supporters of Lord Salisbury will be present.

MR. A. B. Forwood, Secretary to the Admiralty in Lord Salisbury's Second Ministry, has been created a Baronet.

MR. Ernest Hart, at the meeting of the British Medical Association held on July 31, declared that the whole of the Indian Medical Service needed overhauling and reconstituting. He censured the system whereby officers obtain by mere seniority high positions for which they are quite incapable. The Association unanimously adopted a resolution to make representations to the Secretary of State on the utter inadequacy of the sanitary administration of India, to give the most elementary protection to Her Majesty's Indian subjects, and to urge the nomination of a Royal Commission or a Departmental Committee of Enquiry.

THE Ambassadors have approved the nomination of Shakir Pasha to carry out the proposed reforms in Armenia, provided he is invested with full powers, and that the Sultan's scheme of reforms satisfies the Powers.

THE programme of the Lieutenant-Governor's tour has been slightly revised. He leaves Calcutta at 20-57 on Monday next and arrives at Darjeeling at 15-30 on Tuesday, the 20th August. Lady Elliott does not bear him company.

GOVERNMENT has accepted the election of Babu Guro Proshad Sen. He has been gazetted a member of the Bengal Legislative Council.

To prevent the manufacture of Farukhabad rupees, which were called in in 1877, and the counterfeiting of called in coins, the Finance Minister introduced, on the 11th July, in the Supreme Legislative Council, a Bill to add to section 230 of the Indian Penal Code, the following :

"Any piece of metal which has at any time been the Queen's coin as above defined shall be deemed to be the Queen's coin for the purposes of this chapter notwithstanding that it may have ceased to be used as money."

To definitely include the Farukhabad rupee, the illustrations to the sanction are to be added to by

"*(e)* The 'Farukhabad rupee' which was formerly used as money under the authority of the Government of India, is Queen's coin, although it is no longer so used."

THE Code of Civil Procedure has been amended or rather added to authorising a High Court to make such rules consistent with the Letters Patent establishing it to regulate its own procedure in the exercise of its original civil jurisdiction, as it shall think fit.

DEAFNESS COMPLETELY CURED! Any person suffering from Deafness, Noises in the Head, &c., may learn of a new, simple treatment, which is proving very successful in completely curing cases of all kinds. Full particulars, including many unsolicited testimonials and newspaper press notices, will be sent post free on application The system is, without doubt, the most successful ever brought before the public. Address, Aural Specialist, Albany Buildings, 39, Victoria Street, Westminster, London, S. W.

On the 25th July, the Law Member introduced a Bill to exempt Crown Grants from the operation of the Transfer of Property Act, 1882, with both retrospective and prospective effect. The additions to the Act proposed are:

"(1) Nothing in the Transfer of Property Act, 1882, contained shall apply or be deemed ever to have applied to any grant or transfer of land or of any interest therein heretofore made or hereafter to be made by or on behalf of Her Majesty the Queen-Empress, her heirs or successors, or by or on behalf of the Secretary of State for India in Council to, or in favour of, any person whomsoever; but every such grant and transfer shall be construed and take effect as if the said Act had not been passed.

(2) All provisions, restrictions, conditions and limitations over contained in any such grant or transfer as aforesaid shall be valid and take effect according to their tenor, any rule of law or enactment of the Legislature to the contrary notwithstanding."

Sir Alexander Miller explained that by the Act limitations over in transfer of property to persons not born at the date of transfer are void, and that the question arose in connection with the Porabat Estate. He himself thinks [illegible] the Government are not bound by the Act. That that opinion [illegible] the rule, it is thought desirable to settle the question in the way proposed, specially as the Advocate-General of Bengal has expressed a different opinion. According to him, the Crown has no power at common law to create an impartible and inalienable estate in land which has not hitherto by custom been impartible and inalienable. The Law Member will give the Crown that power, which, as he says, "it need not exercise except in any case in which it thinks proper." This easy view of absolute power is thoroughly un-English and opposed to modern legislation as against the spirit of the age. We may therefore expect a lively debate on the Bill. If Dr. Rashbehary Ghose is no longer in the Council to cry down the attempt in favour of perpetuities, a member may yet be found to stay the hand raised for arbitrary power. Sir Griffith Evans to the rescue!

The fight over the Viceregal verandah has ended satisfactorily to both sides. The Municipal Commissioners met specially on Thursday, on a requisition from twelve of them, and agreed to allow the three-storeyed hanging structure. The matter had practically been decided on the previous Monday at the Lieutenant Governor's River Party on board the *Rhotas*. At the formal meeting the Chairman moved a resolution sanctioning the three-storyed verandah and reaffirming the rule disallowing covered verandahs, which resolution was carried, though several amendments were proposed and seconded. Thus the Viceroyalists, as a writer in the *Statesman* calls those who were for the verandah, gained what they had contended for, and the Radicals who were dead against it, saved their municipal conscience. These were afraid lest the sanction for the Viceregal verandah be quoted as a precedent for other verandahs. They therefore agreed to break the rule to allow what they could not resist, and simultaneously resolved that no covered verandahs be allowed. The reaffirmation itself forms a precedent which those who are for such verandahs may point to hereafter. The Commissioners in meeting could not refuse the sanction. Public opinion had denounced their conduct of last week. The General Committee had sanctioned the structure, the Chairman had given permission to build and the structure was nearly ready. At this stage it was decided not to allow it. This order so late could not be practically given effect to. For the Commissioners are bound by the action of the majority [illegible]rd[illegible]dan, [illegible]ecc[illegible]neral Committee, the Chairman agreeing, and although the act[illegible] of the General Committee cannot prevail against the order of the Commissioners in meeting, the Chairman could not withdraw the sanction already given but only carry out the order so far as it was practicable. Such being the Law, all unmannerliness and exhibition of temper might have been saved, without compromise of any kind, by quietly passing over the matter.

The law was so altered to give more power to the Chairman and to leave the working of the municipal law to the General Committee, which was also limited to a small number. This was the doing of Sir Henry Harrison. He was once pushed to a corner by the late Jadulal Mullick, when the late Chairman had telegraphed a large order to England without waiting for the sanction of the Commissioners in meeting. Jadulal had opposed that item of business in the Town Council, the then General Committee, and had given notice of opposing the sanction. He was prudent enough not to carry matters to extremes and did not move further. The law was, however, altered that the Chairman might be more free.

In the present discussion much stress has been laid on the rule which it is sought to preserve inviolate as the work of Sir Henry Harrison. There was no greater sinner in this line than he. Sir Stewart Hogg had set his face against new hanging verandahs and made a crusade against existing projections. With the advent of Sir Henry Harrison, verandahs began to hang in numbers, and they multiplied so fast that it was found necessary to make a stern rule. Sir Henry was of the same opinion with Mr. Skrine.

Mr. Skrine is paying dearly for his rashness. He had brought in a motion in the municipal board to circumscribe the vapourings of its loquacious members. That project involved nothing less than disarming the Bengalee of his chief weapon. The Bengalee does not wield the sword, or any other instrument of aggression or defence. The only weapon with which he is most familiar is his supple tongue. To forbid him its use is cruelty. It is true, he has latterly taken to the pen. But that is no reason why he should not prize the much older weapon. Speaking of Dante, Sydney Smith remarked that he might be a great poet, but as to inventing tortures, he was but a mere bungler. He displayed no imagination, no knowledge of the human heart. The *Inferno* is too full of contrivances for the infliction of mere physical tortures, but there is not much of mental torture in it. Chaffing his friend Macaulay, he said, "Oh, you should be dumb. False dates and facts of the reign of Queen Anne should for ever be shouted in your ears; all liberal and honest opinions should be ridiculed in your presence; and you should not be able to say a single word during that period in their defence." Surely, the condemnation of Macaulay to silence under such circumstances would have been a torture exquisite in its cruelty. But even such torture would be nothing compared to Mr. Skrine's closure in the municipality. Mr. Skrine is credited with thoroughly understanding the Bengalee. It would seem that he has yet to learn. Our patriots are many of them verbal hydrants. They derive their principal sustenance from—words, words, words. Words are their chief pabulum. They live upon them and by them. To deprive them of the use of words would be to rob them of their life-breath.

If Mr. Skrine is the butt of ridicule of the patriots in the Corporation, the Chairman too seems to have thrown him overboard. When questioned by one of the Commissioners whether he had heard Mr. Skrine use offensive language to him at a previous meeting and what steps he intended to take to punish Mr. Skrine, Mr. Ritchie replied that he had heard certain unparliamentary words but what they were he could not catch, and, without calling on Mr. Skrine to explain or to apologize, ruled that he could not take any notice of an incident occurring at a previous meeting. The ruling may be a salutary one. For the moment it acted as a balm or avoided further exhibition of temper. But does the matter end there? Has it received its quietus? We wish it had. It does not appear, though, that the Chairman had considered all possibilities. In burying an unpleasantness, he leaves a loophole for its escape. He begins by a mistake. In laying down his law, the Chairman breaks it himself. It is of the nature of the Compromise Resolution regarding the Viceregal verandah. He would not allow the taking up of an unpleasant incident of a previous meeting. In the same breath, he condemns unheard a colleague for certain unembodied sounds which had reached [illegible]hours at a past sitting of the Commissioners [illegible] with [illegible]

The last week witnessed two celebrations in honour of Pandit Vidyasagar. One of these took place at the Emerald Theatre, in connection with the Vidyasagar Library, and the other at the Star Theatre. In the former, Babu Rabindra Nath Tagore read a discourse on the character and doings of the deceased Prince of Pandits. The meeting at the Star was presided over by Dr. Rashbehary Ghose. The speakers, besides the chairman, were Babus Hirendra Nath Dutt, Hem Chandra Roy, Chandi Charan Banerjee, and Amritalal Bose. The last two addressed the audience in Bengali. Babu Amritalal, as usual, was very entertaining.

The Indian Association for the Cultivation of Science held its annual meeting on Tuesday. Sir Charles Elliott presided. The gallery was full with members, students and others, mostly Native.

Some half a dozen European gentlemen and one European lady were present. The New Indian Woman, like the Maharajas, was conspicuous by her absence. Dr. Sircar opened the proceedings by reading the report which could not be presented earlier on account of his bad health. Altogether 79 lectures were delivered during the year 1894, exclusive of 10 practical demonstrations. The session of 1894-95 was opened by Father Lafont with an introductory lecture. A new section, that of Biology, was opened, with an inaugural discourse, by the Honorary Secretary, followed with 5 lectures by Mr. Banwarilal Chaudhuri, B.A., B.Sc., and 3 by Dr. Nilratan Sirkar. The audited accounts of the Association at the close of last year show a balance of Rs. 1,23,116-10 against Rs. 1,17,972-6-11 of the previous year. The reading of the report over, the Secretary made, as usual, an earnest appeal for more funds. In the fervour of eloquence and the need of more money for an institution to which he has devoted his whole life and energies, he unearthed the buried controversy at its birth, and after the lapse of two decades denounced the Temple of Science, which, with characterized as an opposition shop to his own. He deplored its birth as a check to this day to the flow of money to his own. But he forgot that he had refused to incorporate that institution with his own which would have made it more flourishing. Dr. Sircar has lived to be disabused of many of his impressions since the conception of his Temple of Science, and may he live longer still to know that that opposition, if it was an opposition, generated more energy in himself and the friends who had sided with him. His institution had experienced opposition from within itself. The incident alluded to by the Secretary was elaborated upon by the Vice-President Father Lafont, but not sufficiently enough to be intelligible to all present. He only indulged his spleen on the devoted head of another reverend gentleman, now no more, who professed a different creed and held a different view. He was equally unhappy in explaining why he gave up lecturing at the Association. He could not have rendered a greater disservice to the cause for which he spoke that evening. Dr. Sircar's appeal was also for further aid from Government. He wished for a special recognition of the Science Association. Sir Charles Elliott replied to the points raised in the address and took the audience into his confidence by relating some of the measures taken by himself and his Government in the cause of science. We have no space for the reply this week.

REIS & RAYYET.

Saturday, August 3, 1895.

THE PILGRIM SHIPS BILL.

A BLIND LEGISLATION.

THE Pilgrim Ships Bill now before the Select Committee is an important measure, affecting as it does Mahomedans throughout India, particularly the middle and lower classes who form the bulk of pilgrims. It is a measure also in the right direction. But the haste with which it is being rushed through Council has caused alarm among the ignorant. [illegible] apology for it offered by the member in charge [illegible] the Bill is unsatisfactory and worse than the original sin, as the Persian proverb says. There has been no public preparation for such a drastic measure. Even now the papers relating to the subject are known only to the select circle. All that is known of them is what the member in charge of the Bill has been pleased to publish. We must confess that Sir Alexander Mackenzie is more outspoken than Sir Alexander Miller usually is. The Bill was introduced on the 11th July, published at Simla on the 13th and referred to the Select Committee on the 25th of the same month. Representations on the subject will be received through Local Governments only up to the 15th August. It is the will of the Secretary of State that the measure be passed before the next *Haj* season. The Government of India has, therefore, no choice in the matter, and the law must come into force on the 1st October.

The Mahomedan community is grateful to Government for the interest taken and anxiety shown for the Mecca pilgrims. It has not only devised measures and obtained concessions from the Sultan for the comfort and welfare of its subjects, but spent a large sum of money for better accommodation in pilgrim vessels. After all that Government has done for the Mahomedons, it is surprising that it should not have safeguarded their interest in the International Sanitary Conference held at Paris in 1894, and would neglect to be properly represented in the Council of European Powers in a matter of such vital importance to 57,000,000 millions of Her Majestey's subjects. This insufficience, or whatever it be, has filled the minds of Indian Mahomedans with consternation, and they are exceedingly grieved that they are to be guided in the performance of their religious rites and ceremonies by the combined wisdom of European Continental Powers. Although Asia is reputed to be the original home of cholera, the Government of India believes that any epidemic of the disease in Europe, when it has travelled from outside, has done so by land by way of Russia, there being no evidence that it came from India by sea. In that belief, it declined to attend the Dresden Convention of 1893 called to concert measures against the invasion by cholera of Europe, for it would not be a party to imposition of objectionable obligations upon the local, and especially the maritime, Governments of this country.

Notwithstanding, the Bill is introduced, which, when passed, it is feared, will practically close the Haj to the poorer classes, to whom no religious obligation is so dear as a pilgrimage to Mecca. To-day restrictions are put on the pilgrimage to satisfy a foreign demand based on no other substantial reason than the fear of a dreaded disease. Who knows that to-morrow the demand will not be repeated in a graver form? Will the Government of India be prepared then to end the *Haj* entirely. From the way in which it is now proceeding, it will be equally prepared to pass another Bill in three or four weeks, at Simla, without allowing any opportunity for representation. Such quick legislation in the interest of Foreign Governments, the necessity whereof is not acknowledged by our Government, cannot confirm the faith of our people in its wisdom or good intentions. The present Bill so religiously affecting the Mahomedans is being considered in Select Committee without a Mahomedan being on it. Nor is it possible to give every possible consideration to a measure of such magnitude within such a short time. We do not say that Government should not pass any measure which it thinks proper. The educated Musalmans, we are sure, believe that Government has been actuated by the best of motives, although under pressure from outside. But of what good those intentions if the result be disastrous? The political effect also cannot but be injurious. It will be difficult to remove from the minds of illiterate millions the wrong impression which the Bill has begun to create. Mahomedans are very sensitive about their religion, and the least interference, real or fancied, upsets them completely.

Whatever the rigour of the law, the Indian Musalmans will not cease to perform the *Haj*. The heavy restrictions will defeat their own

regions, or rather I should say, to regions which existed only in the imagination of the projectors. The rival scheme could not, in the nature of things, be long-lived. Indeed, it died as soon it was born. But the mischief done by those who helped it at its birth has been disastrously permanent. The popular mind, not over informed anywhere, and grossly ignorant in this country, has not yet recovered from the spell which the sound of the word 'practical' bound it twenty years ago.

The fact remains that though the Association was established with the express intention of paying its workers from monthly subscriptions, the painful discovery was soon made, as was apprehended by Babu Keshab Chunder Sen, that the necessary sum could not be got on paper, far less realized. The Association has accordingly been depending upon honourary lecturers from the very beginning. And it is only since 1892 that we have been able to pay some remuneration to our lecturer on chemistry, though, as already said, not adequate enough to command his entire time.

It was not till the most pressing requirement of the Association, the building of a lecture hall was met, that we could venture to speak of the endowment of professorships, as another of our pressing requirements, without which indeed the permanency of the Institution could not be assured. Accordingly on the day Lord Ripon laid the foundation-stone of the lecture hall, I made my appeal for funds for the endowment of professorships. "The present lecturers," said I, "are rendering their services gratuitously, out of pure love of science, and out of regard for the advancement of the natives of this country, but they cannot continue to render those services for ever. And neither can we expect, nor ought we to expect, that we should always be able to command honourary lecturers. This is neither possible nor desirable. We must have men continually at work, observing and experimenting and investigating, within the walls of the Institution, in fact, devoting their lives to the cultivation of science in order that we may have natives of the country contributing to the advancement of human knowledge, for which specific object this Institution was projected and has been established."

Two years later, in 1884, when the lecture hall was inaugurated by the same Viceroy, I once more urged the necessity of endowed professorships, and a fund for one professorship was actually started. His Excellency not only gave us permission to call it after him, but gave us a substantial donation of Rs. 1000 in its aid. H. H. Sivaji Rao Holkar, then first Prince of Indore, now Maharaja, gave us permission to divert his donation of Rs 1000, to this fund. With characteristic liberality H. H. the Maharaja of Durbhanga subscribed Rs 10,000 in aid of the same fund. But sad to say, after the departure of Lord Ripon, at least, this has been the coincidence, the fund has improved but little, notwithstanding our repeated appeals in its aid. After 1886 it has come to an absolute stand still, a fact which so much surprized Sir Steuart Bayley that in addressing the members and assembled guests at the annual meeting in 1888, he was compelled to put the question, "In this wealthy city is Lord Ripon's name then forgotten?" and instead of waiting for a reply added, "but I would rather leave you to draw the moral, and content myself with reminding you of what Lord Ripon himself said that 'a single school founded, a single college aided, nay, a single scholarship provided, will do, in the times which are before us, more to uphold the honour of an ancient name or to create the reputation of a new one, than any outward show of dignity or any personal display of wealth."

The Committee of Management, after having year after year regretted inability to report any improvement in the fund, have for very shame abstained from even alluding to it. But the importance of a professorship endowment fund, especially when coupled with the name of a most popular Viceroy, is so great that I cannot let slip this opportune and I might say this auspicious occasion without bringing it prominently forward once more to the notice of my countrymen, Hindu, Mahomedan, Parsi, and all who take pride in the name Indian.

I have called this occasion opportune and auspicious, because we have the privilege of holding this meeting under the presidency of a ruler who has evinced genuine earnestness in the cause of science by substantial encouragement, not encouragement by word of mouth only, but by the actual endowment of a prize for original research in the adjudication of which an honourable place has been given to this Institution. Considering the occasion then, may I not hope that those of my countrymen present here will enable me to announce at the next annual meeting that the Ripon professorship has become an accomplished fact?

I may be permitted to point out that the failure to found a professorship in the name of Lord Ripon would be a serious reflection upon our gratitude and our sincerity. The enthusiasm that was displayed in honour of his lordship throughout the length and breadth of India was phenomenal at the time. Was that enthusiasm sincere? might well be asked when we have literally done nothing to perpetuate his memory. If it was sincere, how is it that our gratitude followed suit with the smoke of the fireworks with which his lordship was entertained at Belgatchia, that is to say, evaporated and did not settle down into something solid and substantial? And what thing more solid and substantial could possibly be imagined than what we are now speaking about, which would not simply be a token of our sincerity and of our gratitude but would benefit us without measure and for ever?

But, Sir, it is not in aid of the endowment of this one professorship, however important to endow for the sake of our national character, that I want your powerful voice. Those who have even the most superficial knowledge of what and how the nations of the West are doing for the cultivation of the sciences ought to know what number of professorships we require for an Institute of Science which professes to be, and deserves to be, and may be made to be, a national Indian Institution.

First in the field to awaken the people of India to the necessity of the cultivation of the physical sciences as the best and indeed the only method by which they can be essentially improved, by which the Asiatic torpor of ages can be shaken off, by which the lost prestige of the Indian sages as the educators of the world in primeval times, can be regained,—would it not be a pity if such an Institution were to languish for want of support? And would it not be a greater pity still if after having advanced as far it has done, it is suffered to die of inanition, or worse, to dwindle into a sorry and miserable thing for ever bearing witness to the want of energy and enlightenment of the present Indian people?

Now what is the advance which the Association has made during the twenty years it has been in working existence? This is not altogether inconsiderable if it is borne in mind that it has been in receipt of Rs. 1,92,338 as donation, including the Rs. 25,000 of Babu Kali Kissen Tagore for instruments and the Rs. 40,000 of Maharaja of Vizianagram for the laboratory building, and Rs. 20,000 as monthly and yearly subscriptions. By judicious investment of this sum the Association has made an income of Rs. 61,000 in the shape of interest from Government securities and Rs. 20,000 as rent from the road-side shops. It has altogether spent Rs. 1,80,000 of which the sum of Rs. 31,000 was spent in the purchase of the premises on which it stands, Rs. 30,000 in building the lecture hall, Rs. 41,000 in building the laboratory, about Rs. 36,000 in the purchase of instruments, about Rs. 3,000 in furniture and Rs. 2,000 in books and periodicals, and nearly Rs. 8,000 in municipal taxes, and the balance of Rs. 28,000 in establishment, charges general, lecture charges, lighting, &c. As regards the number of lectures delivered, in place of two in the month with which the work of the Association was begun, there are now six a week or twenty-four in the month during the working session.

"We must therefore gratefully admit" with the *Hindoo Patriot* "that Bengal, and especially the Metropolis, has done much for the cause of science. But it must be equally admitted that much more that could have been done has not been done. We see only the names of a few millionaires on the subscription list, and it is their names which recur on different occasions. How many there are who can come forward very liberally, but have not done so? What more convincing proof do they require of the utility and the importance of the Association than the testimony, in eloquent, earnest and often impassioned words, borne of that utility and importance by successive Viceroys who have been its patrons, and by successive Lieutenant-Governors who have been its presidents?"

"But it is not our millionaires alone," continues the same journal, "who are to blame for their apathy and indifference to the cause of the Science Association. The institution has not met with that appreciation from the bulk of our community which it was expected in the beginning that it would. This means the apathy and indifference of the educated classes, who are and ought to be the proper representatives of the country. Education has not, it is true, reached the masses. But what increasing numbers of graduates are being turned out year after year by our universities. To them the advantages of science-cultivation in this country cannot be matter of doubt. And yet we do not see that they have moved in the matter adequately to their numbers and their culture. We do not see that they have come forward either with their purse or with other help at their easy command. We do not mean to say that there are not honourable exceptions, but how few, how solitary these exceptions are! We do not exaggerate when we say that we have scarcely found a single graduate who has tried to persuade others to help the institution. If our graduates had shown any earnestness in the matter, and acted the part of the missionary in the cause of science, the Association would have worn a different and brighter aspect. The rules of membership have placed it within reach of every one with moderate income."

I think I have made clear what is expected from my countrymen, from the wealthy and the learned, as regrds this institution. I will here quote an important observation which was made by the Hon'ble Mr. Cotton in his address on Technical Education at the Bethune Society some years ago, which has a most pertinent bearing on what I have been so feeby urging. "A most urgent need in India," said he, "is the better disposition of hoarded wealth India is in need of wealthy men who have wisdom and experience, who will not fritter away their money on *tamasha* and ceremonies, and who are not unwilling to lay out capital which will bring them neither titles

nor official smiles. We do not want capital to be buried, we do not want it to be wasted on marriage expenses, nor do we want it to be squandered in sycophantic subscriptions or in the reception and entertainment of officials. Some expenditure of this kind will always be unavoidable, but the waste which now runs rampant must be checked. No spectacle is more deplorable in the eyes of the well-wishers of this country than the lavish squandering outlay which fashions demands and public opinion sanctions on these occasions." I have only to remark in this connection that we have two kinds of hoarded wealth in this country, one in the shape of hoarded gold and silver and the other in the shape of unused intelligence. In order to liberate the latter it is necessary to liberate the former, which in this sublunar world of ours is a magic transformer of energy of all kinds.

And now, before I resume my seat, a word as to what I expect, and may legitimately expect, from Government. Lord Lytton, when he paid a visit to the Association in 1880 to be present at one of its lectures, in addressing the audience after the lecture, said, "and let me beg you to remember that the cause of science here in India is really of all causes the most deserving, the most beneficent, and the most charitable." Lord Ripon marked "the deep and sincere interest he felt in the progress of the Association---an interest which," his Lordship said, "increased with his increasing acquaintance with the wants of India," by contributing liberally to its funds. Lord Lansdowne, also a contributor to its funds, when laying the foundation-stone of the Vizianagram laboratory, said, "I am convinced of the great value of the work which the Indian Association for the Cultivation of Science has done in the past, and is likely to do in the future," and added, "I shall be expressing the general opinion of those who stand around me when I say that, living as we are in an age remarkable for the number and brilliancy of its scientific discoveries---an age in which every civilized nation is contributing its quota towards the general fund of scientific knowledge---we should be reluctant to think that India, considering the intelligence of many of the races by which it is inhabited, should fail to bear its share in extending the dominion of man over the natural world."

I need not here recount what your predecessors in the presidential chair said and did for the Association. Your Honor has gone further them all when in presiding at our annual meeting in 1891, you were pleased to observe---*It is quite right that Government should support and encourage everything that is done to promote the growth of the love of science in India.* It is these words which have emboldened me to say my humble say, as I am now doing, as to what we may expect from our Government. We are thankful for what the Government has already done for the Association by its moral support, and by acquiring the land on which its premises stand.

But it can do much more in a variety of other ways without any appreciable charge upon its finances. For instance, it can furnish the institution with instruments made at its workshops for its meteorological, mathematical, telegraphic and other departments, at little or no cost. It can supply it with spare specimens from its geological and other museums. And it can order copies of all its scientific publications to be sent for the library of the institution.

There is one other thing which I humbly beg to suggest Government can easily do, and which is calculated to benefit the Association immensely by drawing students to its lectures and practical demonstrations, and that is by passing some such resolution as this---that candidates for Government service requiring a knowledge of science will have preference if they can show certificates of having passed through full courses of instruction at the Science Association. While this will be a very great encouragement to students, it will be a gain to Government to have men under its service with a better knowledge of their work than would otherwise be attainable. It has become a fashion to reproach the Indian student for not taking to the study of science for the love of science, as if even in the most civilized countries which owe their civilization to science, the raw unfledged student prosecutes scientific studies with expectation of neither immediate nor prospective advantages. It is, as I have often said, a note-worthy though sad fact that earnest students are seldom found amongst those who are born and bred up in the lap of luxury and ease; all the world over, and specially in our own country, they are met with chiefly among the poor. It is the duty of every lover of true worth and of the State to find out genuine talent from its home in adversity.

And now, Honourable Sir and Gentlemen, I have done. I feel that in this great matter I have not been able to do my duty with any satisfaction to myself. Having had to satisfy the demands of the stomach by my professional work, I had not leisure enough left to devote to the adequate fulfilment of the task I had set before myself. I think I ought to admit that it is chiefly to this cause that the progress made by the Association in twenty years has been so small compared with what has been done in the West during that time as scarcely to lead to any hopeful prospect. If I am still persevering, it is because I have faith in the inherent capacity of my countrymen to explore the secrets of nature, it is because I have faith in the beneficence of our Government, and above all, it is because I have faith in the providence of God.

My countrymen, you have but to will it, you have only to properly use your hoarded wealth and hoarded intelligence, and it will not be long before you take your place among the favoured nations of the world. Do you want any recent example to encourage you and inspire you with confidence? Look at Japan, only a few years ago perhaps the most insignificant country in Asia. And yet see what science has done for her. Why should you despair when you are backed by a most glorious past and can rely upon an inherited intelligence not inferior to any other in the whole world? How is it that the spirit of your sages does not animate you, sages who set before man the loftiest ideals of excellence, truth for the intellect and absolute disinterestedness for the heart? I leave you to ponder over these questions and to find what answer you can.

ONLY FOUR TO MAN THE PUMPS.

DEAR, dear! When you come to think of it how closely related things are; how one thing brings up another. Ideas are like a lot of beads on a string, aren't they?

A letter I have just been reading makes me remember what happened to me one winter about twenty years ago. The story is too long to tell here, so I'll merely give you the tail end of it. I was supercargo on a bark bound from London to Rio. A tremendous gale, lasting five days, wrecked us. Forty eight hours after it ceased there were four men and no more left on the vessel. The captain had been killed by a falling spar, three of the crew washed overboard, and the rest of the ship's company (save us four) went away in the long boat with the first and second mates. We were taking in water through a leak at the rate of six inches an hour. Working with all our might the four of us could pump that out in forty minutes, but we must do it every hour. It was awful work. For two days we kept it up, without sleep. Then we stopped, took to the quarter boat and shoved off. The sea was quiet---no wind. While we lay to within a mile of her the ship threw up her nose and went down stern first. We were picked up the next day by a Danish brig.

Now the odd thing is that the letter which reminded me of that experience has nothing whatever to say about ships. Please help me to find out the association.

The lady who writes the letter says that in July, 1881, she got a bad fright. Exactly what it was she doesn't tell. I wish she did. Anyway it so upset her that she didn't get over the effects of it for nine years. After that her appetite fell off; she lost all real relish for food, and what she did eat only made trouble instead of nourishing her. It gave her pain in the pit of the stomach and (curiously enough) between the shoulders. She says her eyes and skin presently turned yellow as a buttercup. Her face and abdomen swelled, and her feet the same, the latter so much so that she was obliged to have her shoes made larger.

"I got little sleep at night," she says, "and was in so much pain I had to be propped up with pillows. For weeks together I could not lie down in bed. I had a dry, hollow cough, and bad night sweats. Then diarrhœa set in, and my bowels became ulcerated. I was often in dreadful agony for forty-eight hours at a time. Then I would have a chill as though a bucket of cold water were poured down my back. I got so low I could no longer sew, knit, or do any housework or look after my children. My sister had to come and help in the house.

"Everybody said I was in a decline and must die. What I suffered for eight years tongue cannot tell. The doctor could do nothing for me. He said my complaint was complicated and bad to deal with. In 1886 I went as an outdoor patient to the Shrewsbury Infirmary, but only got transient relief."

The writer is in good health now, but why did her case remind me of the shipwreck? Let's settle that first. The association is easy and natural. Just see. The ship sank because we four men hadn't the strength to pump out the water as fast as it came in. Twenty might have got her into port. It is the last straw that breaks a camel's back; the last unsupplied need that makes poverty abject and desperate.

These bodies of ours carry the seeds of disease with them all the time---chiefly the poisons created by imperfect digestion, made worse by careless habits. But as long as nothing extraordinary happens we manage to scrape along in a half-and half sort of fashion. Yet we've got in our blood the stuff that any of a dozen diseases is made of, only waiting for something to set it afire. While the liver, kidneys, lungs and skin keep us fairly free---that is, don't let the load get too heavy---we say, "Oh, yes, I'm tolerably well, thank you." Little pains and unpleasant symptoms bother us now and then, but we don't fancy they mean anything.

By-and-by something happens. A cold, too hearty a meal, a night of dissipation, an affliction through death or loss of property, a fright as in Mrs. Bunce's case, &c. Over we go. The last straw has crushed us. One loose spark has blown up the barrel of powder. The crew is too small to save the ship. The kidneys, liver, skin, and stomach strike work, and we must have help right away or perish. All of which means the explosion of latent indigestion and dyspepsia poisons in the blood.

There! isn't it plain why I thought of the ship? Now for the conclusion of the lady's story. She says: "In 1889 I first heard of Mother Seigel's Curative Syrup. Half a bottle made me feel better, and by keeping on taking it I was soon strong and well as ever. (Signed) Mrs. Ann Bunce, The Park, Worthen, near Shrewsbury, February 22nd, 1893."

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NOTIFICATION.

THE following revised rules framed under sections 130 and 133 of the Sea Customs Act, VIII of 1878, having received the sanction of the Local Government will be put in force with effect from the 1st August, 1895, in supersession of those published in the *Calcutta Gazette* of the 28th November 1883, Part I, page 1123.

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F. H. SKRINE,
Offg. Collector of Customs.

Custom House,
Calcutta, July 29, 1895.

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CONTEMPORARY POETRY.

TO THE STETHOSCOPE.

"Tuba mirum spargens sonum."—*Dies Irae.*

Stethoscope! thou simple tube,
Clarion of the yawning tomb,
Unto me thou seem'st to be
A very trump of doom.

Wielding thee, the grave physician
By the trembling patient stands,
Like some deftly skilled musician,
Strange! the trumpet in his hands.
Whilst the sufferer's eyeball glistens
Full of hope and full of fear,
Quietly he bends and listens
With his quick, accustomed ear—
Waiteth until thou shalt tell
Tidings of the war within
In the battle and the strife,
Is it death, or is it life,
That the fought-for prize shall win?

Then thou whisperest in his ear
Words which only he can hear—
Words of woe and words of cheer
Jubilatés thou hast sounded,
Wild exulting songs of gladness,
Misererés have abounded
Of unutterable sadness.
Sometimes may thy tones impart,
Comfort to the sad at heart,
Oftener when thy lips have spoken,
Eyes have wept, and hearts have broken

Calm and grave physician, thou
Art like a crowned King;
Though there is not round thy brow
A bauble golden ring,
As a Czar of many lands,
Life and death are in thy hands
Sceptre-like, that Stethoscope
Seemeth in thy hands to wave,
As it points, thy subject goeth
Downwards to the silent grave;
Or thy kingly power to save
Lifts him from a bed of pain,
Breaks his weary bondage-chain,
And bids him be a man again.

Like a Priest beside the altar
Bleeding victims sacrificing,
Thou dost stand, and dost not falter
Whatso'er their agonizing:
Death lifts up his dooming finger,
And the Flamen may not linger!

Prophet art thou, wise physician,
Down the future calmly gazing,
Heeding not the strange amazing
Features of the ghastly vision.
Float around thee shadowy crowds,
Living shapes in coming shrouds;—
Brides with babes, in dark graves sleeping
That still sleep which knows no waking;
Eyes all bright, grown dim with weeping,
Hearts all joy, with anguish breaking;
Stalwart men to dust degraded;
Maiden charms by worms invaded;
Cradle songs as funeral hymns;
Mould'ring bones for living limbs;
Stately looks and angel faces,
Loving smiles, and winning graces,
Turned to skulls with dead grimaces.
All the future, like a scroll,
Opening out, that it may show,
Like the ancient prophet's roll,
Mourning, lamentation, anguish,
Grief, and every form of woe

On a couch with kind gifts laden,
Flowers around her, books beside her,
Knowing not what shall betide her,
Languishes a gentle maiden.
Cold and glassy is her bright eye,
Hectic red her hollow cheek,
Tangled the neglected ringlets,
Wan the body, thin and weak;
Like thick cords, the swelling blue veins
Shine through the transparent skin,
Day by day some fiercer new pains
Vex without, or war within
Yet she counts it but a passing,
Transient, accidental thing,
Were the summer only here,
It would healing bring!
And with many a fond deceit
Tries she thus her fears to cheat:

DEAFNESS COMPLETELY CURED! Any person suffering from Deafness, Noises in the Head, &c., may learn of a new, simple treatment, which is proving very successful in completely curing cases of all kinds. Full particulars, including many unsolicited testimonials and newspaper press notices, will be sent post free on application. The system is, without doubt, the most successful ever brought before the public. Address, Aural Specialist, Albany Buildings, 39, Victoria Street, Westminster, London, S. W.

Subscribers in the country are requested to remit by postal money orders, if possible, as the safest and most convenient medium, particularly as it ensures acknowledgment through the Department. No other receipt will be given, any other being unnecessary and likely to cause confusion.

"When the cowslip's early bloom
Quite hath lost its rich perfume ;
When the violet's fragrant breath
Tasted have the lips of death ;
When the snowdrop long hath died,
And the primrose at its side
In its grave is sleeping ;
When the lilies all are over,
And amongst the scented clover
Merry lambs are leaping ;
When the swallow's voice is ringing
Through the echoing azure dome,
Saying, 'From my far-off home
I have come, my wild way winging
O'er the waves, that I might tell,
As of old, I love ye well.
Hark ! I sound my silver bell ;
All my happy birds are singing
From each throat
A merry note,
Welcome to my coming bringing'
When that happy time shall be,
From all pain and anguish free,
I shall join you, full of life and full of glee'

Then, thou fearful Stethoscope !
Thou dost seem thy lips to ope,
Saying, "Bid farewell to hope
I foretell thee days of gloom,
I pronounce thy note of doom—
Make thee ready for the tomb !
Cease thy weeping, fears avail not ,
Pray to God thy courage fail not
He who knoweth no repenting,
Sympathy or sad relenting,
Will not heed thy sore lamenting—
Death, who soon will be thy guide
To his couch, will hold thee fast ,
As a lover at thy side
Will be with you to the last,
Longing for thy latest gasp,
When within his iron grasp
As his bride he will thee clasp"

Shifts the scene. The earth is sleeping,
With her weary eyelids closed,
Hushed by darkness into slumber
Whilst in burning ranks disposed,
High above, in countless number
All the heavens in radiance sleeping,
Watch and ward
And loving guard
O'er her rest the stars are keeping

Often has the turret chime
Of the hasty flight of time
Warning utterance given ,
And the stars are growing dim
On the gray horizon's rim,
In the dawning light of heaven
But there sits, the Bear out-tiring
As if no repose requiring,
One pale youth, all unattending
To the hour , with bright eye bending
O'er the loved and honoured pages,
Where are writ the words of sages,
And the heroic deeds and and thoughts of far distant ages

—*Blackwood.*

(To be continued.)

DEAFNESS. An essay describing a really genuine Cure for Deafness, Singing in Ears, &c, no matter how severe or long-standing, will be sent post free. —Artificial Ear-drums and similar appliances entirely superseded. Address THOMAS KEMPE, VICTORIA CHAMBERS, 16, SOUTHAMPTON BUILDINGS, HOLBORN, LONDON

WEEKLYANA.

THE University of Göttingen admits ladies to its degrees as "special exceptions." But these exceptions are about to form the rule. The second of such admissions is that of Miss Maltby, an American, closely following the heels of Miss Chisholm, to the degree of doctor of philosophy with the distinction "cum laude" and a special commendation of her written work There are now twenty women preparing at that University for their examinations.

* * *

THE Council of the Legion of Honour having refused to strike out the name of M. Eiffel, the French Chamber resolved upon a Bill for the re-organization of the Council. The Council have since unanimously decided to resign.

* * *

THE first German expedition has started for the interior of Somaliland The object is to traverse the unexplored Somali and Galla countries, and then to reach the Indian Ocean near Mombasa. The caravan is composed of fifty native soldiers, fifty camel-drivers, ten servants, one hundred camels and six horses.

* * *

A STATEMENT by the French Minister of Marine shews that since 1891, fifty-seven vessels costing 94,791,000 frs. have disappeared from the Navy list, and are being replaced by fifty-eight ships which will cost 552,453,000 frs

* * *

AT Christie's on Saturday, July 13, a portrait of Lady Mulgrave, by Gainsborough, realised 3,5000 guineas ; a portrait of Lord Nelson, by Hoppner, 2,550 guineas ; a sea view by Ruysdael, 4,200 guineas ; a Holy Family, by Murillo, 4,000 guineas ; a portrait of Lady Reade, by Romney, 1,050 guineas ; Mrs Beresford, by the same artist, 1,050 guineas ; a 'Canal View,' by Hobbema, 1,450 guineas ; and a portrait of Maria Carleton, by Hoppner, 1,050 guineas.

* * *

ACCORDING to a recent report the number of women and girls returned as occupied out of every 1,000 in England and Wales was 340 5 in 1881 and 344·2 in 1891, giving an increase of nearly four per thousand. In the United States the increase has been remarkable. We give some examples :—

Women employed as—	1870.	1890
Actresses	692	3,949
Architects	1	22
Artists and teachers of art ...	412	10,810
Authors, literary and scientific persons	159	2,725
Clergymen	67	1,235
Dentists	24	337
Engineers and surveyors ...	—	127
Journalists	35	888
Lawyers	5	208
Musicians and teachers of music...	5,753	34,518
Government officials, Federal, State, and local... ...	414	4,875
Physicians and surgeons ..	527	4,555
Theatre managers, showmen, &c...	100	634
Book-keepers and accountants ...	—	27,777
Clerks and copyists	8,016	64,048
Stenographers and typewriters ...	7	21,185

In England there are no lady clergymen, nor dentists, nor Government officials.

* * *

LORD Rosebery contradicted the statement that he had created four new Peers in consideration of their having given 1,00,000*l* to the war chest of the Radical Party at the recent election. His Secretary writes to a correspondent .

"Of the four Peers created the two wealthy ones were promised the Peerage by Mr. Gladstone in 1892, when Lord Rosebery had nothing to do with matters of that kind ; and therefore they certainly do not receive the honour for coming to the assistance of the Liberal war chest on the present occasion. Of the other two Peers, who were recommended by Lord Rosebery on his own separate responsibility, one is a distinguished servant of the Crown, but, as Lord Rosebery believes, not a Liberal in politics ; and the other is a Liberal in politics who has served in the Government, but who is certainly not in a position to give large contributions, if any, to party purposes."

* * *

"A LIBERAL, though a Unionist," "having written to the Duke of Devonshire, pointing out that certain recent proceedings appeared to indicate a premature endeavour to force the alliance into a fusion

where the name of Liberal might be merged or lost, his Grace has replied as follows:

"I think that I may be best able to reply to your letter by referring you to the speech which I made on June 15 at the banquet of the National Union of Conservative and Constitutional Associations, in which I entered rather fully into the question of the relations between the Conservative and Liberal Unionist parties. It may be gathered from my observations on that occasion that while I perhaps attach less importance than is attributed by others to the distinction between alliance and fusion, I pointed out in the strongest terms that the avowed opinions of many of us prevented us from ever adopting the names of Conservative or Tory, with all the associations which attach to them. While the Home Rule question exists I would gladly see Unionists of all sections adopting that name in preference to any other designation, but this cannot be done at once, and until it is done the Unionist Party must continue to consist of Conservatives and of Liberal Unionists. Our independent existence has been recognised in the clearest manner in the formation of the present Government; the preparations for the general election in the Unionist interest have been made, and it is now being conducted, with complete harmony, by our independent organisations, and there is not, so far as I am aware, the slightest desire or intention on the part of anyone, except perhaps on the part of our opponents, to put an end to the existence of either of the independent parties whose close alliance has, up to the present time, been attended by such remarkable success."

***

OUR Monghyr (Jamalpur) correspondent writes:—

Preparations are making for the reception of the Lieutenant Governor, who is expected at Monghyr on the 11th.

Two natives of Behar are alleged to have been brutally murdered in Monghyr and Rampur, a village in Jamalpur, respectively. Two men are under arrest. Another suspicious death of a native is reported here. The dead body has been removed to the Monghyr Government Hospital for post mortem examination.

The local municipality is now devoting itself to the sanitary improvement of the native quarters. In Nowagong Boidyapara some tiled houses have already been demolished, and lands having been acquired, a new wide road has been made, while others are in contemplation with additional improvements. It is also proposed to have water-works. It is intended to bore the foot of the hills forming the Eastern boundary of Jamalpur till a perpetual spring is reached, whence the water will be conveyed through pipes to the town.

The *Bhootta* crop is abundant. The climate may be said to be pretty fair, notwithstanding some isolated cases of cholera.

***

MR. H. M. Kisch having been granted privilege leave for two months and thirty-days, Mr. W J. Ham, officiating Post Master General, Madras, will officiate as Post Master General, Bengal.

***

MORE than one attempt was made in Calcutta to tax bicycles, but failed. Madras is more advanced. We read that Dr. W. H. Wilson, Professor of Chemistry, Madras Presidency College, appealed to the Presidency Magistrates, Egmore, against the taxation of his bicycle by the municipality. The Court held that a bicycle is a vehicle with springs and taxable under the Municipal Act.

NOTES & LEADERETTES,

OUR OWN NEWS,

&

THE WEEK'S TELEGRAMS IN BRIEF, WITH OCCASIONAL COMMENTS

CHINA is again to the fore. Not as the receding Power before the advancing Japan, but for another bloody deed—the massacre of foreigners. A report reached Shanghai from Foochow of slaughter of Christians at Kuchang, including five foreign ladies. The next information from Foochow was that ten British subjects were killed at Kuchung, and that the houses of the foreigners were set fire to. The Rev. Mr. Stewart, his wife and child were burnt, and seven unmarried women were killed with swords. The American residents escaped. It was also rumoured that the victims were subjected to shocking atrocities. To add to the indignation and horror caused throughout England against the Chinese, it is reported at Hongkong that further riots have taken place between Kuchung and Foochow. The sectaries of the Vegetarian Society set fire to the houses of the foreign residents. The remains of the Kuchung victims have been buried at Foochow. Indignation meetings have been held by the foreign colonists at Foochow, Hongkong, and Shanghai, demanding protection from their respective Governments and punishment of the murderers. Lord Salisbury next demanded from China a decree ordering the death of the culprits in the Kuchang massacre, and the fullest protection for missionaries; also that an escort be provided for the British Consul who is going to Kuchang to enquire into the massacre. A reply has been received from China assenting to the demands. The position of the Europeans at Foochow is regarded as critical, owing to the hostility shown to foreigners. The province of Fukien is in a state of rebellion. Several gunboats have been ordered to Foochow to protect the foreign settlement.

The latest advices from China state that the Chinese soldiers sent to protect the Mission at Kuchung broke into the place and plundered it.

Reuter's correspondent at Hongkong telegraphs that an infuriated mob attacked, on Aug. 7, the British and American Missions at Fatshan, near Canton. Hospitals were demolished and other damage was done. Some of the Missionaries saved themselves by flight. A Chinese gunboat has been despatched to the scene to quell the disturbance and restore order. The anti-foreign agitators propose to destroy all the Missions in the province of Kwantung, and to drive the Missionaries to the treaty ports. The sectaries of the Vegetarian Society now number twelve thousand and are well armed and organised, and able to withstand the Chinese troops.

His Excellency Kung Tajen, Chinese Minister in London, had a protracted audience with Lord Salisbury on Thursday. A meeting of the Cabinet was held immediately after to discuss the Chinese massacres.

THE Porte's reply to the demands made by the ambassadors in regard to Armenia is deemed unsatisfactory. It is stated that Sir Philip Currie, British Ambassador at Constantinople, has been instructed to demand the release of the unconvicted Armenian prisoners. Great Britain, jointly with the signatories of the Treaty of Berlin, demands the immediate appointment of a European Commissioner to administer the province of Armenia on behalf of the Sultan.

HEAVY rains have fallen throughout Japan, causing serious floods and loss of life. The rice crops have been destroyed, and a famine is feared.

THE Emperor of Germany arrived at Cowes on Monday afternoon in his yacht, escorted by five men-of-war. The Emperor dined with the Queen at Osborne in the evening. He will remain at Cowes for a week for the yacht races, and will then go on a visit to Lord Lonsdale at his shooting-box in the North.

AN interview took place, on the 5th, between the German Chancellor and Count Kalnoky, the Austrian Foreign Minister, at Aussee, when they discussed the foreign situation, particularly in regard to Bulgaria.

AS previously announced, Mr. Gladstone addressed a meeting at Chester in favour of Armenian reforms. He strongly denounced the Porte, whose denials and promises, he said, were valueless England must not fear the word "coercion" in dealing with Turkey. He could not do otherwise. The English press unanimously approve, it is said, of the language used by Mr. Gladstone. All England must now be up in arms against the unspeakable Turk!

THE rioting at Tabriz has been stopped, and quiet restored.

REAR-ADMIRAL Rawson was to have sailed for Mombasa on the 8th. If the ultimatum which he is instructed to present to the rebel chiefs of the Mymie tribe is disregarded after Monday, a punitive expedition will go the Shimba range.

FOUR British ironclads were to leave Gibraltar on the 8th under sealed orders. It is believed that their destination is Morocco.

MR. Colin Campbell has been appointed Secretary to the Welby Commission on Indian expenditure in place of Mr. C. T. Ritchie resigned.

PRINCE Ferdinand is still absent from Bulgaria, where the situation is grave and complex, owing to the overthrow of all hope of a reconciliation with Russia under the present *régime*.

THE visit of the Afghan prince is drawing to a close. Colonel Talbot has been created a Knight Commander of the Indian Empire. Mr. T. A. Martin, the Amir's Agent, has been knighted. Lord Salisbury wrote an autograph letter to Mr. Martin, informing him that Her Majesty the Queen would confer the honour of Knighthood upon him. Mr. Martin goes to Osborne on the 12th.

THE steamer Catterthun, bound from Sydney to Hongkong, has foundered on a rock. Sixty persons have been drowned, of whom forty-six are Chinese.

IT is stated that the object of the arrival at Tangier of the British and Spanish squadrons is to obtain Consulates at Fez, as France has already secured a similar concession.

THE Maharaja of Patiala has gone to Ootacamund, where he means to stay for a couple of months, with a large stud of thirty-five horses including some racers. A jockey himself, he has subscribed Rs. 1,000 to the Fund for a testimonial to Grace the cricketer.

BURMA is fast being quieted down. During the second quarter of 1895 the number of violent crimes was 168, of which 51 were dacoities, against 299 and 116 in the second quarter of 1894. In Upper Burma the number of dacoities fell from 22 to 6, and in the Lower from 94 to 45.

THE Rangoon Municipal Committee have adopted the report of their Water-works Sub-Committee recommending a loan of 35 lakhs for the new water-works and 20 lakhs for various sanitary improvements, and a tax of two per cent on commodities largely imported into Rangoon by sea, such as ghi, sugar, grain, pulse, tilseed, groundnut oil, and tobacco.

MR. Beatson Bell, the *bête noire* of the *Bengalee*, had a tussle with a beast of the forest which he killed. While holding court, he was informed of a strange visitor in the shape of a leopard near Manickgunge. The Magistrate of Dacca immediately ordered a gun and went for the beast followed by his faithful *Chuprasi*. Mr. Bell attacked the beast but it got the better of him—had him down and was mauling him when, finding his master in danger, the peon bravely came up and handed him another gun. This was the saving of both master and servant. The leopard now left its first prey and turned towards the new comer. This enabled the master to be on his legs again and shoot the beast dead before it could do any injury to the servant.

THE amendment of the Civil Procedure Code has been followed up by a Notice of the Judges of the Bengal High Court, in which they order a General List of Commercial Causes separate from the General List of Causes and General List of Suits for Liquidated Claims. In fact, they had been awaiting the amendment to make special arrangements in the original side for commercial suits, that is, suits in which the claim arises out of the ordinary transactions of merchants and traders—such as relating to the construction of mercantile documents, exports or imports of merchandise, affreightment, insurance, banking and mercantile agency and mercantile usage. By and bye, the Court will have special Judges for such suits.

IT seems the Printer of the *Calcutta Gazette* is independent of the Printing Press Act. His name does not appear—prominently or not—in any part of the Gazette. It is well, though, that he keeps himself unknown. The High Court notice which we have just mentioned requires more than one correction. It cannot be that Mr Belchambers is ignorant of the number and names of the Judges. We know Sir W. C. Petheram is the Chief Justice who heads the list of signatories to the order. But who is the second signatory signing himself H. T. Petheram? Messrs. Thacker, Spink and Co. had once transported Mr. Justice Ghose to the Campbell Medical School. The printer of the Gazette imports a new Judge in Mr. Justice C. N. Ghose. He also robs one of the Judges of one of his nominal alphabet, probably thinking it too much of a good thing, for the letter occurs many times.

SIR John Lambert having gone on leave and resigned his seat in the Bengal Legislative Council, the Police Commissioner's place in that assembly has been filled by the Police Magistrate Nawab Syud Ameer Hossein. Both are members of the same Order of the Indian Empire, and fast friends. Sir John has not found another native magistrate to his liking. This is the second legislative career of the Nawab Magistrate. He had been member of both the Local and Supreme Councils for more than one term. He is again selected for the Lower Chamber, with perhaps a prospective lift to the Upper. Khan Bahadoor Mahomed Yousoof was in a manner forced to the repetition of membership in the Bengal Council while he had been longing for the other place. These repeated, appointments of the same persons plainly shew that no other Mahomedan is worthy of a place in the Council presided over by Sir Charles Elliott. If that be the view of the next régime, the two Mahomedans already named will have perpetually to represent their brethren. Is there not another Mahomedan in Bengal who could do as well if not better? So much the worse for that community!

THE prosecution of Rai Isri Prasad was commenced in the Patna magistracy on the 3rd September. Apprehending a foregone conclusion, an application was made by the Babu to the High Court, which transferred the case to the Court of the District Magistrate of Sarun. After a lengthened enquiry, that Magistrate, on the 6th June, directed him to execute a bond for Rs. 25,000 with two sureties for Rs. 12,500 each, to be of good behaviour for three years, in default to undergo three years' rigorous imprisonment. The matter came up to the High Court again, on Thursday, the 6th August, when Justices Macpherson and Banerji, on the application of Mr. Hill, instructed by Messrs. Leslie and Sons, ordered a rule on the District Magistrate of Sarun to show cause why his order should not be set aside, in that it was based, to a great extent, on evidence which was legally inadmissible and that if that evidence be excluded the remaining evidence would not support the order.

A RULE has also been issued by the same Judges in connection with the Budh-Gya temple case. Mr. Ghose argued for a long time and the Bench agreed to a rule on the Magistrate to show cause why the conviction of Jaipal and two others and sentence of Rs. 100 fine should not be set aside on the ground that the evidence disclosed no offence and that the agreement dated the 11th February, 1877, between the Secretary of the Government of Burma and the Mahant of Buuh-Gya was misconstrued and misunderstood.

While moving for the rule, Mr. Ghose tired to shew that the case was one for the Civil and not the Criminal Courts. The prosecution, represented by Mr. Dharampal, one of the Secretaries of the Mahabodhi Society of Calcutta which has been founded with the ostensible object of acquiring the Budh Gya temple for the Buddhists, had endeavoured to set up a new image of Buddha in the temple. The Mohant's people resented the trespass and opposed it as best they could. If the small knot of Buddhists who go by the name of Mahabodhi Society, wish to vindicate their rights to the temple, a civil and not a criminal case should be the proper form. A criminal forum, presided over by a Magistrate of Mr. Macpherson's calibre and frame of mind, cannot, by its sentence, terminate the real dispute. Mr. Ghose pointed out that, after the strong expressions of opinion in which the Magistrate had indulged, regarding the Mohant's rights over the temple, before Dharmpal had made his

complaint, he should not have tried the case himself The Mahabodhi Society have engaged able Counsel to show cause against the rule. Whatever may be the decision of the High Court in the matter actually before it, there can be no doubt that the Civil Courts will be ultimately called upon to declare the rights of parties.

We read in an English paper that "at the recent Commencement at Harvard, the honorary degree of LL. D. was conferred (*in absentia*) upon Dr. Fitzedward Hall." The honour for the great American in England comes from the American University late But it is never too late to do a right thing, and we hope Dr. Hall will live long to enjoy the distinction from his own countrymen. Dr Hall has lived in England for twenty-six years and does not expect again to see his native country which he has not visited for twenty-one years.

In acknowledging receipt of Pundit Shambhu Chandra Vidyaratna's *Chartamala*, Dr. Fitzedward Hall writes,—"It is a happy and patriotic idea, your commemorating the more noteworthy of your recent countrymen. Among them I notice, with gratification, several of my old personal friends. My respected teacher and co-editor, Bápudeva Sástri, with whom I enjoyed several years' intercourse, I am glad to see that you have biographized. In many respects he was a remarkable man. Eminent as a scholar, he was likewise estimable in his private relations."

The Doctor further writes,—"Of cheering omen for the future is the fact that Mr. Skrine has written the life of the lamented Dr. Sumbhu Chunder Mookerjee. The appearance of the book, of which I have ordered a copy, I await with pleasure."

A statement in our notice last week of the annual meeting of the Science Association has been taken exception to. We said that Dr. Sircar had refused to incorporate the Temple of Science with the Science Association. We need hardly explain that we spoke of Dr. Sircar as representing the Association, for he could not act on his own opinion in a matter which was the concern of himself as of several others who formed the committee of management. Dr. Sircar himself had no objection to the amalgamation if the objects of both were the same. After a hot and acrimonious discussion at a joint meeting of the Association and the League, presided over by the Governor Sir Richard Temple, it was found, it is needless to say, that the two parties could not agree. We take the final results of that meeting from the proceedings of the Science Association

"His Honour then said that, after having heard both parties, he was clearly of opinion that the two funds could not be amalgamated, and, if the two parties could not combine together, he must treat with them separately. After what he had heard that day from the speakers representing the different parties, he must give up all hope of a reconciliation.

The Rev. K. M. Banerjee proposed that, if the two parties could not combine, yet they could both work under the same roof, separately, and treat each other as loving brethren.

His Honour then got up and said that he was certain that no amalgamation could take place, as it would only end in discussions, and interfere with the working of each. He took the sense of the meeting by asking for votes for separation and amalgamation respectively, 32 hands were raised in favour of separation, and 5 in favour of amalgamation."

The Indian Association for the Cultivation of Science.

210, Bow-Bazar Street, Calcutta.

(Session 1895-96.)

Lecture by Dr. Nilratan Sirkar, M.A., M.D., on Monday, the 12th Inst., at 6 to 8 P.M. *Subjects*: Practical Zoology—The Pigeon. Zoology—The Hydrozoa.

Lecture by Babu Rajendra Nath Chatterjee, M.A., on Wednesday the 14th Inst., at 7-30 P.M. *Subject*. The Physical properties of Gas and the barometer.

Lecture by Dr. Mahendra Lal Sircar, on Thursday, the 15th Inst., at 6 30 P.M., *Subject*: Magnetism; Fundamental Phenomena; Induction.

Lecture by Babu Ram Chandra Datta, F.C.S., on Friday, the 16th Inst., at 4-15 P.M. *Subject*: Lead and Silver.

Lecture by Dr. Nilratan Sirkar, M.A., M.D., on Friday, the 16th Inst., at 6 to 7 P.M. *Subject*: Chemical Physiology—Carbo-Hydrates.

Admission Fee, Rs. 4 for Physics, and Rs. 4 for Chemistry; Rs. 6 for both Physics and Chemistry; Rs. 4 for Physiology; Rs. 4 for General Biology; Rs. 6 for complete course of Physiology and Biology. The charge for a single lecture is 4 Annas.

MAHENDRA LAL SIRCAR, M.D.,

August 10, 1895. *Honorary Secretary.*

REIS & RAYYET.

Saturday, August 10, 1895.

THE ENGLISH ELECTIONS.

The Liberal cause in England has gone down. The silent change in the opinion of the British electorate, regarding both Irish Home Rule and the Lords' House of Parliament, was not clearly discerned by either of the great parties. When the lower chamber was dissolved and the parties prepared for the contest that is just over, neither of them was aware of the measure of popularity which the Lords still enjoy in the country. Whatever the absurdity attaching to the idea of hereditary legislators, the British aristocracy stands on a footing entirely different from that in which the aristocracies of ancient Rome and Greece, or of many modern countries, stand. In Britain, only the eldest son of a peer succeeds to the privileges of the peerage. The other children are all commoners. On the failure of heirs, these are often called to the peerage. Success also in the learned professions and the public service frequently leads to recruitment of the peerage from the commonalty. Thurlows's boast of the peerage having sought him instead of his having sought it, rightly considered, would furnish the British peerage also with ground for boast, for it showed how free that peerage is from anything like narrowness in its constitution. Burke pointed out, in one of his unrivalled orations on the American war, that the history of Britain differed materially from the histories of Rome and Greece. In the latter, an incessant struggle was carried on between the two orders of people till an equality was brought about of political privileges. Social distinctions continued, but these were independent of political rights and were entirely founded on wealth, knowledge, and superior civilisation. In the British Isles there has been no struggle between the aristocracy and the commonalty for the equalisation of the rights of citizenship. The domestic history of England, in particular, has been the history of the imposition of taxes. The ablest pens and the most eloquent tongues have jointly discussed this subject of taxation, and the whole nation, with a courage that cannot fail to be admired, have fought for reducing to practice the conclusions to which those speculations have led The cause has been handed down from bleeding sire to son. Peers have combatted, side by side with the people, in the forum and the field, on behalf of those principles. There was a peer among the obnoxious members of the lower chamber who Charles I wished to arrest in their places; and among those that objected to ship money, there was a peer who like Hampden had asked the tax-collector to call again. Voltaire, in his satiro-comic characterisation of English history, missed or omitted to notice, this glorious feature. His remark that is the province of the historian to write the history of the island, considering that that persons finally determined all affairs of moment must be a detestation of the bloodshed brought about by struggles of parties in that country whose politics have been as tempestuous as the seas that wash its shores. At the same time, however, the measure of

praise he accorded to the English constitution is not stinted. "Who would have imagined," he said, "that from this horrible abyss, this chaos of dissension, cruelty, ignorance, and fanaticism, a Government should at last spring up, the most perfect, it may be said, now in the world? Yet such has been the event. A sovereign honoured and wealthy, all powerful to do good, without any power to do evil, is at the head of a free, warlike, commercial, and enlightened nation. The nobles on the one hand, and the representatives of the people on the other, share the egislature with the monarch."

The noble fabric of the British constitution has been slowly raised by the exertions as much of the aristocracy as of the people. In the struggles for curbing the arbitrary propensities of the Crown, for establishing the fundamental maxim of the British Government that the subjects are not to be taxed without their own consent expressed through their representatives, the peers have not stood aloof from the people. Such being the attitude of the British peerage, and such its constitution, the day of its fall is yet distant. The appeal to the country in 1895 has resulted in an unmistakable declaration that the House of Lords is to continue with unabated privileges. That the Liberals should have committed so great a blunder as to mistake the voice of a few advanced Radicals for the voice of the British people, is viewed with surprise by everybody The Liberal Unionists have cast their lot with the Conservatives. Danger to the Union and the threat levelled at the upper chamber of the legislature have combined interests that could not, under ordinary circumstances, be combined. It is useless to indulge in forecasts about the manner in which the new Conservative Premier will guide the vessel of State. The Liberals are taunting the Unionists with having abandoned their principles for sharing power with the opponents of progress. Some are predicting the speedy fall of a ministry consisting, as they say, of "all the talents," for except the two great questions about the union and the Lords, the Duke of Devonshire and his party will find it impossible to support measures dictated by purely Conservative principles. But coalitions of opposite interests have not always proved ephemeral. There are many questions appertaining to the border land of both Liberalism and Conservatism in which Lord Salisbury may fairly count upon the support of his new allies. Nor is the Conservatism of the present day actually so narrow and fraught with stolid prejudice as to be altogether hateful to moderate Liberals. The section of the Liberal camp led by Lord Roseberry is essentially Radical Politics have compromise for its essence. The Conservative Premier knows the value of compromise. All things considered, the political atmosphere of England does not show any sign from which it would be safe to predict a short life to the new ministry or a speedy return of the Radicals to power with their declared programme of Home Rule and abolition of the House of Lords.

So far as India is concerned, this great dependency of the British Crown has in the past reaped greater benefits from Conservative than from Liberal administrations. The Queen's Proclamation, viewed as the solemn charter of India's rights, was the work of a Conservative ministry. The rendition of Mysore to its old Hindu rulers was a Conservative measure. The restoration of Gwalior too was the gracious act of a Conservative Cabinet. It is true that Lord Lytton's gagging Act could never have been passed but for the improbability of a veto by a Conservative Secretary of State, and that we owe the repeal of the Act to the influence of Liberals. The sister Arms Act also has been due to Conservative reaction. But was not the Vernacular Press law supported by Indian members of Lord Lytton's Legislative Council? As regards the Arms Act also, notwithstanding its repeated condemnation by Mr. Gladstone, was it not retained untouched by his party? It is only as regards Manchester agitation that India truly stands in dread of a Conservative Ministry. But considering the absolute need there is of the duties on cotton for enabling the Indian Finance minister to make the two ends meet, the danger, after all, may not be real. At any rate, India is capable of being sacrificed to the exigencies of party struggle as readily by Liberals as by Conservatives.

THE SANITARY DRAINAGE BILL.

THE TEN PER CENT. ARGUMENT.

At the last sitting of the Bengal Council, after a strong opposition, the Bengal Sanitary Drainage Bill was passed. Mr. R. C. Dutt attempted to meet the objection of the Zemindars that the financial clauses involved a breach of the Permanent Settlement. The view of the Zemindars is well known. Anything exacted over and above the revenue payable under their solemn contracts with the State, call it cess, rate, or tax, involves an infringement of the settlement. The question was thoroughly sifted on the occasion of the imposition of the Road Cess. The then Secretary of State for India, without arguing the matter, authoritatively declared that the terms of the settlement did not exclude such local cesses. It cannot be expected that in a question of this kind, where one of the parties to the contract takes it upon himself to decide its meaning, the other party will silently acquiesce. Government willingly neglected the chance of silencing controversy by refusing to submit the question to the arbitrament of the Judges of either the Bengal High Court or Her Majesty's Privy Council. Every time the question has come up, the *ipse dixit* of officials and their solid votes in the Council chambers have settled it. So far as the sanitary cess is concerned, Mr. R. C. Dutt's attempt, therefore, to meet the contention of the Zemindars by argument deserves every praise. It is true Mr. Dutt gives credit to his colleague, Mr. Risley, for having completely disposed of the objection of the Zemindars. But Mr. Risley's essay is not distinguished for anything new. There has been much special pleading, mixed as usual with assumptions. Leaving Mr. Risley for the present, we will notice a point or two of Mr. Dutt's The daily papers report that "he denied that this was a violation of the Permanent Settlement. It could not be called a cess in the same sense as the Road Cess. It was not permanent: it was not imposed upon the whole province, or the whole of any district, and it was not intended to be permanent. It was a rate which was to be imposed at the instance of local bodies within limited areas for drainage works, and when the work had been paid for, the rate would cease. It might rather be called a voluntary contribution by the people as represented in the District Boards. He thought it was a misnomer to call it anything else."

To describe the rate as a voluntary contribution is only a specious sophism. The Commons' House of Parliament grants subsidies to the English Sovereign. Those subsidies are met by the people whom the House represents. In paying their dues, therefore, to the State, the people of England are said to make voluntary payments. It is true that the pockets of the English people cannot be touched unless they themselves give their consent through their representatives. But do the District Boards of Bengal at all stand to the people in the relation of representatives and represented? We wish it were so. Many long years will have to roll away before these Boards will be truly representative bodies. The temporary character of the rate for a particular purpose has scarcely any value as an argument. If it means anything, it means that those who have the power of breaking the settlement do not break it for the whole province and for all time to come. They break it in only particular parts of districts and break it for temporary periods. Breakers of a solemn promise they are, but not to the extent contended for by the Zemindars. Mr. Dutt's answer to the objection that the financial clauses affect only the class interested in land to the exclusion of the general community, has no originality. It is based on the principle which Sir William Hunter, the statistician-general of the Government of India, first brought into fashion. "It was said," we quote Mr. Dutt's speech, "that it was inequitable because it fell upon the landed classes. To that proposition he begged to demur. As had been pointed out, the classes interested in land amounted to 80 per cent. of the whole population, and if they excluded the lower classes interested in agriculture it would come up to something like 90 per cent. The remaining 10 per cent. or probably a good proportion of them, were unable to pay any taxes at all, so that by imposing a rate upon people connected with agriculture they imposed a rate practically upon the whole population benefited by the schemes contemplated under the Bill." There, we have the thing cut and dry. The landed classes amount to 80 per cent. of the total population. Excluding the lower classes, the figure would come up to 90 per cent. That is almost the whole community, for in matters of this kind who would stop to consider such a trivial exclusion as 10 per cent. of the population? Legislation based upon such statistics is extremely dangerous. The Income Tax is levied upon the general community. Unbearable and objectionable as the tax is, it would become ten times so if a portion of the community were exempted from it. If the exemption be extended to even 5 per cent. of assessible incomes, the rest of the community will regard the imposition as tyrannous. When the clause in the Bengal Rent Act regarding occupancy rights was under discussion in the Supreme Council, it was argued on behalf of the Zemindars that the principle involved in the change effected by the law, was dangerous. A valuable right was conferred on a class of tenants. By so much was the Zemindar's interest in the land limited. And yet it was proposed to confer that right without the persons who would acquire it doing anything. Payment of rent was directed to be evidenced by printed receipts. The withholding of such receipts was made penal. The cultivating rayyet was not even to produce his receipts for twelve years to prove possession for that period. If only he touched the land once with the plough, the presumption would immediately arise of his possesssing the land for twelve years. Never before was a valuable right bestowed on any class of the people on such easy terms. Nothing was to be done for winning the right. The difficulty was pointed out that lay in the path of the Zemindars in rebutting the presumption. Auction-purchasers in particular, who have not a scrap of paper in their hands, would be absolutely helpless. As against them every rayyet would succeed in acquiring the right of occupancy. These objections were met by the statement that auction-purchasers represented only 5 per cent. of the Zemindars of Bengal! Sir William Hunter, therefore, urged that the difficulties of such a small class of landed proprietors should not at all be considered. The clause was adopted. The retort that Sir William invited, although it was never made, is that those who suffer from the action of thieves represent a very small fraction of the community. What need, then, of a largely paid Police and an elaborate criminal justiciary for preventing thieving?

THE LORD'S SONG.*

Mrs. Annie Besant has given the world a new translation of the *Bhagavad-Gitá*, or, as she renders it, The Lord's Song, consisting of 168 pages in all, including the title page, dedication, and preface. It is published by the Theosophical Publishing Society of London, with its branches at Benares and Madras. Printed by Women's Printing Society, the get up is excellent. The version is certainly classical. It preserves the spirit of the original to a greater extent than many translations by English scholars. The terseness of Sanskrit has also been maintained. This, however, has told in many places on perspicuity. Mrs. Annie Besant is not free from the highly amusing spirit of self-reliance which Western scholars often display when they reject the authority of Sreedhara or Sankar or Madhusudan, not on questions of doctrine but on the meanings of Sanskrit words. With them the Petersberg Dictionary is a work of greater authority than the scholia or commentaries of Indian giants of learning, on matters connected with the etymology or syntax of Sanskrit words and sentences.

Mrs. Besant is undoubtedly a woman of genius. She possesses a highly facile tongue and a pen hardly less so. The booklet is dedicated to "All Aspirants in East and West." "Aspirants" is, of course, a theosophical technicality. It probably means all those individuals, of both sexes, in Asia, Africa, Europe, and America, who believe in "Mahatmas," or expect to see them (if they have not already done so), and who hope to be like them either in their present birth or at some regeneration, near or remote. We beg to be pardoned by Theosophists if we explain the word wrongly. Undefined as Theosophy is, most of its technical terms are also undefined. Under the circumstances, they cannot complain if they are sometimes misunderstood by the world outside the pale of Theosophy. The preface is well written and shows that Mrs. Annie Besant has in a great measure understood the material doctrines of the *Gitá*. Her explanations of the terms *Manas* and *Buddhi*, however, are not quite correct. These words, it is said in the preface, do not require to be explained for the Theosophical readers. It is only for the uninitiated that the explanations have been vouchsafed. "Manas," she says, "means Mind, both in the lower mental processes in which it is swayed by the senses, by passions and emotions, and in the higher processes of reasoning; Buddhi is the faculty above the ratiocinating mind,

* The *Bhagavad Gitá* or the Lord's Song translated by Annie Besant, London: Theosophical Publishing Society.

and is the Pure Reason, exercising the discriminative faculty of Intuition, of spiritual discernment." We have here the language of all schools of philosophy. At first it is explained that Buddhi is a faculty; it is then said that that faculty is above the ratiocinating mind; then comes the identification of the faculty of Buddhi with Pure Reason; and lastly, it is said that the faculty of Buddhi exercises the discriminating faculty of Intuition. A faculty exercising another faculty can scarcely be intelligible to non-Theosophical readers. This, however, is not all. Manas does not imply the higher processes of ratiocination. Manas is frequently counted among the senses. "*Manah shashthâni indriyani*" occurs very frequently in Sanskrit literature. Buddhi is the faculty of ratiocination. Manas is the servitor of Buddhi even as the senses are the servitors of Manas. Buddhi is commonly described as "*niçchayâtmikâ*," meaning that it discriminates and leads to certitude of knowledge. Discrimination or certitude of knowledge must depend upon ratiocination. Then, again, what is meant by "the discriminative faculty of Intuition?" The capital *I* does not help us much in the connection. Intuition, as ordinarily employed, means knowledge independent of ratiocination. It is not the province of Intuition to discriminate. It seizes ideas at once,—ideas whose truth is afterwards sought to be established by ratiocination. We are not aware of the word Intuition having been used in the sense of the discriminating faculty. At any rate, Buddhi, as used in the Gita, implies the ratiocinative faculty which derives the materials upon which it works from Manas.

Theosophists are always for mysterious interpretations of common things. We are, therefore, not at all surprised at Mrs. Annie Besant's endeavour to find out the esoteric signification of the Gita. The passage is characteristic. We present it to the reader without mutilation:

"Such is the obvious teaching of this sacred book. But as all the acts of an Avatara are symbolical, we may pass from the outer to the inner planes, and see in the field of Kurukshetra the battle-field of the Soul, and in the sons of Dritarashtra enemies it meets in its progress; Arjuna becomes the type of the struggling Soul of the disciple, and Shri Krishna is the Logos of the Soul. Thus the teaching of the ancient battle-field gives guidance in all later days, and trains the aspiring Soul treading the steep and thorny Path that leads to Peace. To all such Souls in East and West come these Divine lessons, for the Path is one, though it has many names, and all Souls seek the same goal, though they may not realise their unity."

We thought that the idea of Emancipation worked out in the Gita, not to say anything of the doctrines of rebirth and the bonds of action, of the practice of penances for making oneself independent of "pairs of opposites," the capacity of well fought battles to lead the slain to heaven, and the obligation of duly discharging the duties of caste, is essentially Indian. It seems that it is not so. "Aspiring Souls," we are told, in the East and the West, realise the same ideas.

In several places of the translation we have marked "conches" as the plural of "conch." All the lexicons we have consulted give conchs as the plural form. We suppose the native gentlemen who examined the proofs, mispronouncing the word, pluralised it by *s* instead of *s*. Some errors of rendering may be noticed here and there. The well-known verse 5 of Lesson II, is thus translated:—

"Better to eat in this world even the beggar's crust than to slay these Gurus, high minded. Slaying these Gurus, well wishers, I should taste of blood-besprinkled feasts."

In the second line of the verse occurs the adjective *arthakâmân*. The commentator Sreedhara first takes it as equivalent to "arthakamatmakan" and as qualifying "bhogan." Then follows the remark, introduced by "yadva," that it qualifies "Gurun." It is, of course, well known in this country that the last of two interpretations given by a commentator represents his own mature view. "Artha-kaman," therefore, should, according to this great and universally venerated scholiast, be taken as an adjective of "Gurun." There is a contrast in the verse, shown very beautifully. At first Arjuna says that it would be better to eat the beggar's crust than slay those *high-minded* Gurus, Bhishma and Drona. Next, he remarks that even if those Gurus be taken as "arthakaman," that is, as stained by cupidity, even then they should not be slain. Among the host of commentators nobody has ever suggested that "arthakaman" is capable of being taken as implying "well-wishers." Indeed, the error is so gross that the veriest tyro in Sanskrit would not commit it. Mrs. Annie Besant, however, makes light of all the commentators and, on her own authority, renders the word as equivalent to "well wishers." Here is how she disposes of such vermin as Sreedhara and Sankara and Madhusudana: "More often translated, 'greedy of wealth,' but the word is used elsewhere for well-wisher, and the term is move in accordance with the tone of Arjuna's remark." "Arthakaman" used elsewhere for "well-wishers!" Wee, pray? The fact is, Theosophists by Intuition, know more than other people.

TEACHING OF SCIENCE IN INDIA.

SPEECH BY SIR CHARLES ELLIOTT.

At the annual meeting of the Indian Association for the Cultivation of Science Sir Charles Elliott, the President, said:

I look back with pleasure to the time, in the year 1891, when I first attended as President and addressed the annual meeting of this Association. I now address it in the last year of my Lieutenant-Governorship, and it is a satisfaction to hear what your Secretary, Dr. Mahendra Lal Sircar, has been able to announce to you regarding the progress which the Association has made beginning from its origin, twenty years ago, when the idea first came into his head of starting the Association and carrying it on, to more recent times, when Lord Ripon and afterwards Lord Lansdowne were patrons of the Association, down to the present day. During the last three years I find from the reports of the annual meeting that Dr. Mahendra Lal Sircar has addressed you every year, and has chiefly dwelt on two points, and these two points he has again impressed upon us in the present year. The first of these leading subjects of his arguments was the importance of creating and procuring more funds with the object of ensuring the establishment of a paid staff of lecturers to carry on the work of this Association. I fully agree with him that you can never expect that the services of honorary lecturers will be available for long series of years with the same energy and the same intellectual freshness which you may expect to receive from paid lecturers. Honorary lecturers will carry on the work for a time with ability and enthusiasm, but, after the first enthusiasm is worn out, cannot in the ordinary course of things toil on in the same hearty manner, and the work will languish. It is not fair to lay such a great strain upon their time and energy, and you must expect that the teaching will fall off unless it is kept up by the stimulus of salaries. I hope that the appeal that your Secretary has made may reach the ears of those who are interested in the progress of the country and who have wealth to contribute. We have heard this evening the names of those who have bestowed from their abundance and their liberality large sums upon this institution and have materially helped to increase its sphere of usefulness. We cherish the names of those gentlemen who are the benefactors of the public, and especially of the youth of this country, and I rejoice to see some of them sitting round me here in this hall. I rejoice also to think that others who are far off, like the Maharaja of Kuch Behar and the Maharaja of Vizianagram, will read the report of this Association, and feel that the gratitude of the rising generation of Bengal is theirs; and this will be sufficient recompense to them for the generosity which they have shown.

The other point which the Doctor has so frequently tried to impress upon you, and which I agree in, is that it is impossible to expect that the youth of this country will, to any great extent, take up the study of science for its own sake without the expectation of a remunerative return, either immediate or prospective. Some provision must be made in order to enable them to live by the art which they profess. In the year 1892 the Doctor said that it was necessary not only that we should remunerate the teachers, but that we should also encourage the boys and provide for them from a pecuniary point of view. In the years 1893-94 he made similar remarks—that the young men must be convinced of the material advantages to be derived from the study of science before they will devote their time to its pursuit. We have just heard in the address delivered to-day a similar sentiment expressed as tersely and as

strongly as before. Now these views are entirely shared in by the Government, and I wish, as this is the last occasion on which I shall address you, to point out to you how much the Government of Bengal has done during my tenure of office to encourage the study of science, and how much I have been privileged to assist in this movement, and how far I have been able to carry out those views which Dr. Mahendra Lal Sircar has so wisely and so strongly impressed upon myself and upon you.

But before I turn directly to that subject, I will say one word with regard to the appeal which he made just now on the subject of the assistance which the Government should give to this institution, and his request that an arrangement might be made by which a certificate given by this institution of satisfactory progress and advancement in the study of science should cause a certain amount of preference to be given to candidates for Government employment requiring a knowledge of science, over other candidates who were students of other institutions. Now what I must say to you on this subject is, that Government looks upon science as a whole, and not as connected solely with this Association. The chief object to which I have tried to direct my endeavours has been to create elsewhere similar opportunities and similar means of obtaining advancement in science to the opportunities and means which are presented here. It would be impossible for the Government to put aside those who were trained in its own institutions and say that it will give preference to those of this institution. All that it can do is to give preference to those who have followed a full course of study in science, regardless of the place where they studied and the institution to which they belonged. The object, I believe, of this institution is to supply means of education in science to those not attached to schools and colleges, or who belong to schools and colleges which do not possess a laboratory, or the needful instruments, or sufficient machinery, or the requirements and equipments necessary for the pursuing of these studies. We have all these things at some of our Government institutions, and further, we do all we can to increase and improve the scientific apparatus of those schools and colleges, and we cannot put the students of this Association on a different level from those of our own institutions.

Now with regard to the work which the Government has done during the last four or five years, I will take it under the different heads of the institutions which are supported by Government.

First and foremost is the great Presidency College, not far from this place. We have built a laboratory there at a cost of a lakh and-a-half of rupees, which is fitted up with almost everything that a laboratory requires, and with every requirement and equipment which is necessary to put the students of physical science at this institution on a level with those trained in the best-equipped laboratory in any part of the world. The effect of what has been done in this direction is to be seen from the numbers of those who have passed out in recent years having taken up the B. Course. The number of students who passed the B.A. in the second or B. Course in 1892-93 was 37, in 1893-94 it increased to 65, and in the last year, 1894-95, it rose to 84. Of those who took the M.A. degree in science there were five in 1892-93, twelve in 1823-94, and fifteen in 1894-95. Therefore I think we are able to assert that we have not only supplied a means, but we have also met a demand, and that the means that we have created has been taken advantage of by those who wish to follow these studies.

Recently we have opened a Geological course in the Presidency College, and one young man took his M. A. degree in Geology, being the first, or perhaps the second, who has taken that degree since the University was formed. And now comes in the case which Dr. Mahendra Lal Sircar has given, in which he asks what is that young man to do with the geological knowledge which he has acquired? It is extremely difficult at present for a geologist to find employment of a suitable kind, but the Government of Bengal has made an application to the Government of India to make a temporary appointment for him in the Geological Department and see what he knows and can do. If it turns out that he has merely learned the books and the formulæ for the sake of taking the degree, and that he has no capacity for comparing and observing things, and shows little intention or inclination to carry on his studies, then if the Government do grant my request, the young man's probation will not last very long. But on the other hand, if he puts his mind to his work, and desires opportunities to travel about to make himself acquainted and familiar with the formation of the mountains and the mineral wealth of the country, then there is a vast field before him for useful and remunerative work in the prosecution of such enquiries.

I turn next to the Sibpur College for Engineering. That institution, as you all know, has been very largely developed and transformed during the last few years. We have decided after much discussion to give up the old system of carrying on the work shops as a remunerative business belonging to the Public Works Department, and allowing our boys only to attend there to see how the paid artisans were working to carry out some portions of the rougher parts of the work under their directions. We have now separated the workshops into two parts, and the workshops attached to the College are entirely distinct from the workshops under the P. W. D. Of course there are a few instructors, but there are no paid workmen; the whole of the work has to be done by the boys who are being trained there in these classes, as engineers, apprentices, and artisans. They are making a new laboratory, and all the desks, furniture, and appliances are being made by the boys themselves: and thus the starting of these workshops has been a practical schooling of the greatest value to them, and they turn out machines of considerable excellence. I saw the other day a lathe which was said to be worth in the market about Rs. 500, but the raw material of which cost only Rs. 80, the labour being entirely supplied by the boys. These machines are used in the College itself, and when these workshops are completely fitted out they will be able to supply all the industrial schools in the country. The number of these schools is rapidly increasing, and they have all been affiliated to the Sibpur College. The result of that affiliation is that they are inspected by the Principal, and when the boys have completed the course in these industrial schools they come on to the Sibpur College with or without scholarships, and are admitted if they can pass the examination even in the second year so as to give them a fair start to carry on their training.

Further, we have arranged to start a mining class in the Sibpur College, and, as you know, mining is an industry which is just beginning to open out a vista of varied and remunerative employment in this country. I am sorry to say that our offer in promising to start this mining class has not as yet been sufficiently met. It was decided that we should admit to this class only boys who had taken an engineering degree; but as yet we have not got a single application from any Bachelors of Engineering. These classes have been kept open a second year, and I hope that after the next examination of the B. E. degree, which will soon take place, or perhaps has recently been held, we will get boys to attend this class. If no Engineers offer themselves we shall then throw the classes open to the apprentices, and future engineers will not thank their predecessors for having lost this opportunity. Two valuable scholarships have been instituted, and will be given if suitable candidates appear. The theoretical instruction will last for one year, and after that there will be a year of practical training in the mines. We have arranged with several mines to enable the boys to acquire practical experience, and the Government has undertaken to pay a premium of Rs. 500, which is required for each boy who is received as an apprentice in the mines. Thus you will see that the Government has for some time been doing what Dr. Mahendra Lal Sircar recommends, and is at present doing everything not merely to supply knowledge, but to supply a course of life which will give remunerative employment to those who follow this course of study.

Another important matter we have in hand in connection with the Sibpur College is the introduction of electrical teaching. We are going to start an installation of electrical lighting for the College and workshops, and the putting up of those works, and seeing how they are carried on will of itself be a useful education for the boys. We also intend to have a class of students in electrical science, and the plant which is required for this purpose is estimated to cost £400. In order to utilise the knowledge thus gained we have applied to the Government of India to guarantee one appointment in the Telegraph Department every alternate year to a qualified student who passes creditably through the course at the Sibpur College. You will see from what I have said, that in making these recommendations and creating these openings for the study of practical science Government has been going to a considerable expense, and I have no doubt that we shall find this expense is well returned to us and to the country at large by the benefits which will be conferred on the boys who take proper advantage of the training which it is open to them to receive.

I turn next to the School of Art. This institution has recently been rebuilt at a cost of a lakh and-a-half of rupees. We have also fitted up the art gallery at the cost of Rs. 18,000, and spent Rs. 10,000 on pictures to be added to the collection already existing. The Art School has been taken from its unsuitable quarters at the end of this street, and the boys are now put into the lighted, airy, and palatial quarters in Chowringhee. It was at first thought that though the new building situated in Chowringhee would be pleasant and convenient to the teachers, it would not be so suitable to the boys, but I am glad to find that this has not turned out to be so, the attendance having risen from 198 in 1892-93 to nearly 300 in 1894-95. The number is constantly increasing, and before long the school will have to impose a certain degree of closure and not admit every one who offers himself. Several of these students obtain remunerative employment in the Survey Department and the Botanical Garden, and a number of private firms and companies employ them for engravings on wood, lithography, drawing, etc. If you wish to see a full account of what these boys do, you must turn to Sir Alfred Croft's annual report on Education for the year 1893-94, in which he goes into the matter at great length.

I had little difficulty in defending this school against an attack that was made upon it from England. To my great surprise one day we received a despatch in which it was said that all the schools

of art in India were believed to be expensive and useless failures. The Hon. Mr. Buckland wrote a reply which completely vindicated the Indian schools of art from the reflection cast upon them, and I can say from my personal knowledge that it was not true also either of the Calcutta or the Lahore School of Art. I must not forget to mention another source of employment which is open to the boys who go through the school of art, *viz.*, the large number of posts of drawing masters which are being created by Government. We have extended drawing to most of the Government zillah or high schools, and to all the training schools. And every one who wishes to take service as a teacher in the vernacular schools must know drawing. Unless he has obtained a certificate in it he will not be qualified to obtain employment in the middle or primary school. In this way we have employed from 50 to 60 young men as drawing masters in these schools, and the knowledge of this subject is getting more and more important. I trust that the time will come when the example set in the primary schools of the Central Provinces will be followed here, and that drawing will become an essential in every school. This teaching is generally allowed to be most beneficial in training little boys to observe what they are looking at and to distinguish one animal from another, one tree from another, and so on. I look upon the School of Art as the great source from which education of this kind will be spread over the whole country.

I will now only briefly mention the Medical College, which does so much for teaching our young men who go out from there as assistant surgeons, the rudiments of medical science, and supplies them with the means of getting lucrative practice. We are rebuilding the Medical College at great expense. Ever since I came to Bengal I have felt that this is a crying want. As now existing, it is not a place where boys should be collected in large numbers: there is not enough space, or light, or air: it is not even sanitary, and it makes the work for the masters and the boys most difficult to carry on. I have devoted one lakh of rupees for the rebuilding of one section only, the anatomical section of the college, and I hope my successors will go on with the work and improve the chemical and other sections and give sufficient space, light, and air to all who intend to follow the medical profession. I will also mention the fact that we are now building a new laboratory for the Dacca College at a cost of Rs. 40,000, and for the Cuttack College at a cost of Rs. 15,000, out of which I am glad to announce that Rs. 10,000 was given by the Maharaja of Mourbhunj, who studied in the College and who gives this money as testimony of the gratitude that he feels for the education which he received there. I regret to see that the prize which I myself have founded for the promotion of original research has up to now not been as successful as might have been expected or hoped. But there is no reason for despairing, and I hope a boy bred up in this Association will yet be able to carry it off by applying the rudiments of knowledge acquired here to the prosecution of research in some useful and practical question after he has ceased his studies.

The only thing that I wish to say in addition to the statistical facts I have given is a matter in which I have to some extent been anticipated by the Secretary. I had intended to draw your attention to the remarkble comparison which may be made between the success of the Japanese and the defeat of the Chinese in the recent war. Dr. Sircar has already touched on this comparison, and I will not dwell upon that very much because it is so obvious. Japan seemed to every one a very small country in comparison with China and so late as four or five years ago it would not have been placed on the same level with China. Only a few years ago, a learned gentleman, Mr. Pearson, wrote a book in which he said that the Chinese were the coming race, and that they would overrun the world. It so happened that when I was last in England I met Mr. Pearson and told him: "With great deference to your views, I think you are wrong. I believe that China is not the coming race but the receding race. There was not the slightest hope for China unless she looked facts in the face and devoted herself to the study of science rather than the study of literature, and rendered all the branches of her Administration more honest and more efficient." If I may say so, China follows the A course and Japan the B course. (Laughter and cheers.) The education of China is entirely literary: they do not apply their knowledge to any practical purpose; while, on the contrary, the education of Japan has given itself entirely to practical purposes. These practical purposes are very largely military purposes. From a humanitarian point of view it is a matter of regret that they are so largely military; but it is chiefly owing to this that she has beaten her formidable rival and raised herself to a high position of respect, not only in the eyes of the Chinese, but of all European nations also.

One further remark and I have done. I will only mention the plague at Hongkong, of which you have heard and which we were so much alarmed lest it should be imported here, that for the first time in the History of Calcutta I had to put on a quarantine in the Hughli. Who was it that discovered the origin of that disease, the bacillus by which it was caused? Not an English savant nor a German, but a Japanese doctor---a scientific man, who, so to speak, had gone through the Japanese B course. Now, why is it that while we are here living among bacilli, in the very home of bacteria, no Indian student has helped us to discover the bacteria of some of the hateful diseases that devastate the population, and ruin the happiness of so many homes? Why should we have to turn to Dr. Koch, Dr. Haffkine, or Dr. Cunningham to throw light on the origin of cholera or of malarial fever? I trust that some of you boys will be able to wipe away that reproach in the near future, and that you will set your minds to make discoveries which will save the population from the diseases which prey on it.

If anything of this kind comes out of this institution, if any of the boys trained here should afterwards be shown to have done such work as this, all I can say is that that will be the best reward that can possibly be given to those who have been such good and true friends to you as Dr. Mahendra Lal Sircar, Father Lafont, and other honorary lecturers and supporters of this Association. (Loud and continued applause.)

ONLY FOUR TO MAN THE PUMPS.

DEAR, dear! When you come to think of it how closely related things are; how one thing brings up another. Ideas are like a lot of beads on a string, aren't they?

A letter I have just been reading makes me remember what happened to me one winter about twenty years ago. The story is too long to tell here, so I'll merely give you the tail end of it. I was supercargo on a bark bound from London to Rio. A tremendous gale, lasting five days, wrecked us. Forty eight hours after it ceased there were four men and no more left on the vessel. The captain had been killed by a falling spar, three of the crew washed overboard, and the rest of the ship's company (save us four) went away in the long boat with the first and second mates. We were taking in water through a leak at the rate of six inches an hour. Working with all our might the four of us could pump that out in forty minutes, but we must do it every hour. It was awful work. For two days we kept it up, without sleep. Then we stopped, took to the quarter boat and shoved off. The sea was quiet—no wind. While we lay to within a mile of her the ship threw up her nose and went down stern first. We were picked up the next day by a Danish brig.

Now the odd thing is that the letter which reminded me of that experience has nothing whatever to say about ships. Please help me to find out the association.

The lady who writes the letter says that in July, 1881, she got a bad fright. Exactly what it was she doesn't tell. I wish she did. Anyway it so upset her that she didn't get over the effects of it for nine years. After that her appetite fell off; she lost all real relish for food, and what she did eat only made trouble instead of nourishing her. It gave her pain in the pit of the stomach and (curiously enough) between the shoulders. She says her eyes and skin presently turned yellow as a buttercup. Her face and abdomen swelled, and her feet the same, the latter so much so that she was obliged to have her shoes made larger.

"I got little sleep at night," she says, "and was in so much pain I had to be propped up with pillows. For weeks together I could not lie down in bed. I had a dry, hollow cough, and bad night sweats. Then diarrhœa set in, and my bowels became ulcerated. I was often in dreadful agony for forty-eight hours at a time. Then I would have a chill as though a bucket of cold water were poured down my back. I got so low I could no longer sew, knit, or do any housework or look after my children. My sister had to come and help in the house.

"Everybody said I was in a decline and must die. What I suffered for eight years tongue cannot tell. The doctor could do nothing for me. He said my complaint was complicated and bad to deal with. In 1886 I went as an outdoor patient to the Shrewsbury Infirmary, but only got transient relief."

The writer is in good health now, but why did her case remind me of the shipwreck? Let's settle that first. The association is easy and natural. Just see. The ship sank because we four men hadn't the strength to pump out the water as fast as it came in. Twenty men might have got her into port. It is the last straw that breaks the camel's back; the last unsupplied need that makes poverty abject and desperate.

These bodies of ours carry the seeds of disease with them all the time—chiefly the poisons created by imperfect digestion, made worse by careless habits. But as long as nothing extraordinary happens we manage to scrape along in a half-and-half sort of fashion. Yet we've got in our blood the stuff that any of a dozen diseases is made of, only waiting for something to set it afire. While the liver, kidneys, lungs and skin keep us fairly free—that is, don't let the load get too heavy—we say, "Oh, yes, I'm tolerably well, thank you." Little pains and unpleasant symptoms bother us now and then, but we don't fancy they mean anything.

By and-by something happens. A cold, too hearty a meal, a night of dissipation, an affliction through death or loss of property, a fright as in Mrs. Bunce's case, &c. Over we go. The last straw has crushed us. One loose spark has blown up the barrel of powder. The crew is too small to save the ship. The kidneys, liver, skin, and stomach strike work, and we must have help right away or perish. All of which means the explosion of latent indigestion and dyspepsia poisons in the blood.

There I isn't it plain why I thought of the ship? Now for the conclusion of the lady's story. She says: "In 1889 I first heard of Mother Seigel's Curative Syrup. Half a bottle made me feel better, and by keeping on taking it I was soon strong and well as ever. (Signed) Mrs. Ann Bunce, The Park, Worthen, near Shrewsbury, February 22nd, 1893."

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DROIT ET AVANT.

Reis and Rayyet

(PRINCE & PEASANT)

WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

VOL. XIV. CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, AUGUST 17, 1895. WHOLE NO. 688.

CONTEMPORARY POETRY.

TO THE STETHOSCOPE.

(Concluded from Page 374.)

Closed the book,
With gladsome look
Still he sits and visions weaveth.
Fancy with her wiles deceiveth ;
Days to come with glory gildeth ;
And though all is bleak and bare,
With perversest labour buildeth
Wondrous castles in the air.
He who shall possess each palace,
Fortune has for him no malice,
Only countless joys in store :
Over rim,
And mantling brim,
Whilst he dreams,
The future seems
Like the present spread before him :
Nought to fear him,
All to cheer him,
Coming greatness gathers o'er him ;
And into the ear of Night
Thus he tells his visions bright :—

" I shall be a glorious Poet !
All the wond'ring world shall know it,
Listening to melodious hymning ;
I shall write immortal songs.

" I shall be a Painter limning
Pictures that shall never fade ;
Round the scenes I have pourtrayed
Shall be gathered gazing throngs :
Mine shall be a Titian's palette !
" I shall wield a Phidias' mallet !
Stone shall grow to life before me,
Looks of love shall hover o'er me,
Beauty shall in heart adore me
That I make her charms immortal.
Now my foot is on the portal
Of the house of Fame :
Soon her trumpet shall proclaim
Even this now unhonoured name,
And the doings of this hand
Shall be known in every land.

" Music ! my bewitching pen
Shall enchant the souls of men.
Aria, fugue, and strange sonata,
Opera, and gay cantata,
Through my brain,
In linked train,
Hark ! I hear them winding go,
Now with half-hushed whisper stealing,
Now in full-voiced accent pealing,
Ringing loud, and murmuring low.
Scarcely can I now refrain,
Whilst these blessed notes remain,
From pouring forth one undying angel-strain.

" Eloquence ! my lips shall speak
As no living lips have spoken—
Advocate the poor and weak,
Plead the cause of the heart-broken :
And this little tongue, the earth
With its burning words shall fill.

" Ye stars which bloom like flowers on high,
Ye flowers which are the stars of earth,
Ye rocks that deep in darkness lie,
Ye seas that with a loving eye
Gaze upwards on the azure sky,
Ye waves that leap with mirth ,
Ye elements in constant strife,
Ye creatures full of bounding life .
I shall unfold the hidden laws,
And each unthought-of wondrous cause,
That waked ye into birth.
A high-priest I, by Nature taught
Her mysteries to reveal :
The secrets that she long hath sought
In darkness to conceal,
Shall have their mantle rent away,
And stand uncovered to the light of day.
O Newton ! thou and I shall be
Twin brothers then !
Together linked, our names shall sound
Upon the lips of men."

Like the sullen heavy boom
Of a single gun at sea,
When athwart the gathering gloom,
Awful rocks are seen to loom
Frowning on the lee ;
Like the muffled-kettle-drum,
With the measurrd tread,
And the wailing trumpet's hum,
Telling that a soldier's dead ;

DEAFNESS. An essay describing a really genuine Cure for Deafness, Singing in Ears, &c., no matter how severe or long-standing, will be sent post free.—Artificial Ear-drums and similar appliances entirely superseded. Address THOMAS KEMPE, VICTORIA CHAMBERS 19, SOUTHAMPTON BUILDINGS, HOLBORN, LONDON.

Subscribers in the country are requested to remit by postal money orders, if possible, as the safest and most convenient medium, particularly as it ensures acknowledgment through the Department. No other receipt will be given, any other being unnecessary and likely to cause confusion.

Like the deep cathedral bell
Tolling forth its doleful knell,
Saying, "Now the strife is o'er,
Death hath won a victim more"—
So, thou doleful Stethoscope!
Thou dost seem to say,
"Hope thou on against all hope,
Dream thy life away:
Little is there now to spend;
And that little's near an end.
Saddest sign of thy condition
Is thy bounding wild ambition;
Only dying eyes can gaze on so bright a vision.
Ere the spring again is here,
Low shall be thy head,
Vainly shall thy mother dear,
Strive her breaking heart to cheer,
Vainly strive to hide the tear
Oft in silence shed.
Pangs and pains are drawing near,
To plant with thorns thy bed:
Lo! they come, a ghastly troop,
Like fierce vultures from afar;
Where the bleeding quarry is,
There the eagles gathered are!
Ague chill, and fever burning,
Soon away, but swift returning,
In unceasing alternation;
Cold and clammy perspiration,
Heart with sickening palpitation,
Panting, heaving respiration;
Aching brow, and wasted limb,
Troubled brain, and vision dim,
Hollow cough, like dooming knell
Saying 'Bid the world farewell!'
Parchéd lips, and quenchless thirst,
Everything as if accurst;
Flowers without the least perfume;
Gone from everything its bloom;
Music but an idle jangling;
Sweetest tongues but weary wrangling;
Books, which were most dearly cherished,
Come to be, each one, disrelished,
Clearest plans grown all confusion;
Kindest friends but an intrusion;
Weary day, and weary night—
Weary night, and weary day;
Would God it were the morning light!
Would God the light were passed away!
And when all is dark and dreary,
And thou are all worn and weary,
When thy heart is sad and cheerless,
And thine eyes are seldom tearless,
When thy very soul is weak,
Satan shall this victim seek
Day by day he will be by thee,
Night by night will hover nigh thee,
With accursed wiles will try thee,
Soul and spirit seek to buy thee.

* * * *

Close we here. My eyes behold,
As upon a sculpture old,
Life all warm and Death all cold
Struggling which alone shall hold—
Sign of woe, or sign of hope!—
To his lips the Stethoscope.
But the strife at length is past,
They have made a truce at last,
And the settling die is cast.

Life shall sometimes sound a blast,
But it shall be but "Tantivy,"
Like a hurrying war reveillie,
Or the hasty notes that levy
Eager horse, and man, and hound,
On an autumn morn,
When the sheaves are off the ground,
And the echoing bugle-horn
Sends them racing o'ver the scanty stubble corn.
But when I a-hunting go,
I, King Death,
I that funeral trump shall blow
With no bated breath.
Long drawn out, and deep and slow
Shall the wailing music go;
Winding horn shall presage meet
Be of coming winding-sheet,
And all living men shall know
That beyond the gates of gloom,
In my mansions of the tomb,
I for every one keep room,
And shall hold and house them all, till the very Day of Doom.

—*Blackwood.*

WEEKLYANA.

THERE was an employé in the finance department of Madrid who bore the name—Don Juan Nepomuceno de Burionagonatotorecagageazcoecha. India is a land of wonders. But at present we cannot call to mind a longer nominal phrase than Ashtkamaldal. padmaprakashita-dhanavidyagoonalava Gouri. This paragon of sweetness and excellence is a daughter of the late reformer Durgaram Mancharam Mehtajeea, a Nager Brahman of Surat, in the Bombay Presidency.

* * *

Labour for children under sixteen to ten hours a day. It has been now found necessary to raise the number of hours to eleven. Before the Bill sanctioning the rise is passed, orders have been issued not to prosecute any infringement of the condemned current law. The Dundee mill-owners, overflowing with the milk of human kindness for the dusky denizens of India, have moved the Secretary of State for India for restricting the hours in Indian mills for women and children.

* * *

THE Greek Chamber has at last passed a law reducing the tax on the export of raisins by 4 drachmas per 1,000 litres, and imposing a *retenue* of fifteen per cent. on those exported for trade purposes.

* * *

THE new Græco-Russian commercial treaty, which is to last for ten years, provides for a fixed import duty on Russian cereals and for a monopoly of Russian kerosine oil in Greece. The treaty was intended or is expected to drive American petroleum from the Greek market.

* * *

A FOURTH part of the main line of the great Trans-Siberian Railway has been completed, after employing 70,225 persons and costing 73,437,111 roubles. A special harbour at Batoum is being constructed for the coasting trade between that port and Russia.

* * *

THE Rev. William Hastie, D. D., late Principal of the General Assembly's Institution in this city, and recently assistant to the Professor of Divinity in the University of Edinburgh, has been appointed Professor of Divinity in the University of Glasgow.

DEAFNESS COMPLETELY CURED! Any person suffering from Deafness, Noises in the Head, &c., may learn of a new, simple treatment, which is proving very successful in completely curing cases of all kinds. Full particulars, including many unsolicited testimonials and newspaper press notices, will be sent post free on application. The system is, without doubt, the most successful ever brought before the public. Address, Aural Specialist, Albany Buildings, 39, Victoria Street, Westminster, London, S. W.

"ELECTION Eggs, three a penny. Notice: not sold for human food," is the latest development in trade brought about by the English practice of pelting opposition candidates at the hustings. It is said that in one town, during the late hours of polling, several itinerant merchants cleared, by such eggs, a good sum of money.

***

WE read:—

"Mr. Herbert Spencer has refused the decoration which the German Emperor offered him. The incident recalls the fact that the Emperor's grandfather offered the decoration of the Iron Cross to Thomas Carlyle, and somewhat to the surprise of his friends the gruff old sage accepted it. The honour was conferred in consideration of the services of the Scottish philosopher in bringing the personality of the great Frederick to the attention of the English-speaking world. Indeed, no worthy biographer of the saviour and, it might be said, founder of the Prussian Kingdom had appeared among his German countrymen. Carlyle subsequently refused an English title, and when it was pointed out that he had accepted the Prussian monarch's favour, he grimly replied that that had never been conferred, so far as he could ascertain, except for merit. In a letter to a friend, however, he said that the Emperor would have bestowed a more valued gift if he had sent him half a pound of good tobacco."

***

JOGENDRA Nath Mookerjee, Vakil, High Court, N.-W.P., has been sentenced by the Sessions Judge of Allahabad, to three years' rigorous imprisonment. He was charged under sections 193 and 109, 196 and 471, Indian Penal Code, with using a forged document to get an appeal admitted beyond time. All the assessors were of opinion that he was guilty. Mr. Blennerhasset found him not guilty under sections 193 and 109. Concurring with the assessors, he found him guilty under section 471. The charge under section 196 was stayed.

***

A DIVISION Bench of the Calcutta High Court, consisting of the Chief Justice and Mr. Justice Beverley, have held that a duly certificated Mukhtear can, when properly authorised by a power of attorney, file applications in Civil Courts of all grades for execution of decrees. The Subordinate Judge of Nadia had held the contrary. The impression, we think, is very general among Munsiffs and Subordinate Judges that certificated Mukhtears, even when holding powers of attorney, are incompetent to act for parties in the Civil Court. Upon a proper construction of the provisions of the Legal Practitioners' Act and sections 36 and 37 of the Code of Civil Procedure, there can be little doubt that this impression is incorrect.

NOTES & LEADERETTES,

OUR OWN NEWS,

&

THE WEEK'S TELEGRAMS IN BRIEF, WITH OCCASIONAL COMMENTS.

PARLIAMENT was opened on Thursday by Royal Commission. Her Majesty, in her Speech from the Throne, which was read by the Lord Chancellor, said:—I have received communications from the Foriegn Powers which assure me of the continuance of their good-will. No complication has arisen in any quarter calculated to endanger the peace of Europe, and I trust that the peace concluded between China and Japan will be enduring. I have observed strict neutrality and taken no action in respect thereto, except such as appeared likely to favour the termination of the war. I deeply regret the atrocious outrages on the English Missionaries in the province of Sukeim, where the Chinese Government are taking active measures which, I hope, will result in an effective punishment of the murderers and all persons in any degree responsible for them.

Alluding to the troubles in Armenia, Her Majesty says that they have been attended with horrors, which have moved the indignation of all the Christian nations in Europe, and the English people especially, and Her Majesty anxiously awaits the decision of the Sultan regarding the reforms in that quarter jointly suggested by the British, French, and Russian Ambassadors as being necessary to prevent a recurrence of constant disorder.

Considering the season of the year Her Majesty says that it will probably be found more convenient to defer until another session the consideration of any important legislative measures except those that are necessary to provide for administrative charges.

Mr. Gully has been re-elected Speaker of the House of Commons.

Mr. Justin McCarthy has been unanimously re-elected Chairman of the Anti-Parnellites. It is stated that the meeting was a harmonious one.

The House of Lords has voted the Address in reply to the Queen's Speech.

In the debate Lord Salisbury said that the Sultan of Turkey would be guilty of a grave error if he declined to aid the Powers in their endeavours to extirpate anarchy and cruelty in Armenia. Regarding the massacre in China he said that if China was neglectful or lukewarm in punishing the culprits, further action would be necessary on the part of the British Government.

His Lordship defended the retention of Chitral, and said that it was not intended to increase the military expenditure or the forces in India for that purpose. Lord Rosebery opposed the retention of Chitral, and demanded the production of the opinion expressed by Sir Donald Stewart. He urged the need for financial military concentration in India.

Dr. Tanner for giving the lie in the House of Commons to Mr. Harrington, and refusing to apologise when called upon by the Speaker, was named and suspended.

IT is stated that the Sultan is firmly resolved not to admit foreign control over the reforms in Armenia. The Grand Vizier counsels his Majesty to make the concession, but the palace party are opposed to it, and the Grand Vizier's position is considered precarious.

THE *Times* concurs in the protests of the European community in China against the inadequacy of the demands for redress made by Great Britain and the other Powers concerned, and states that if the Pekin Government is incapable of controlling the Provincial authorities, Great Britain must deal with the latter directly. A commission, consisting of British and American Consuls, one American Naval officer, and three missionaries with a strong Chinese escort, has started for Kucheng, to enquire into the recent massacres. At a meeting held by the Church Missionaries Society, a resolution was passed that no disaster would be allowed to interfere with the Society's work. One British and one American cruiser have sailed for Foochow for the protection of their respective subjects there.

REUTER'S agency has been informed that the Franco-Chinese treaty only agrees to certain rectifications on the frontier of Chenghung, not the cession of the whole of that State east of the Mekong, but the portion ceded is so considerable that it is expected the Anglo-Chinese Convention of 1894 will be annulled.

THE *Times* is informed that the Chinese Government is in a state of helpless confusion, and is incapable of any decisive action or of exercising effective authority.

THE *Times*, speaking on the Upper Mekong boundary question, approves of the measures taken to affirm the reality of the British Power over Kiangcheng, the French claim hitherto being baseless and inadmissible.

THE only serious difficulty now impeding the retrocession of the Liaotung Peninsula to China is due to the attitude of Germany, which does not share in the opposition shown by China, Russia and France to the amount claimed by Japan as supplementary indemnity. A strong anti-English current is being at present displayed in the German press. Great Britain is accused of frustrating German Colonial aspirations.

JAPAN is making arrangements at Pekin for a commercial treaty with China, the latter securing for Japan the most favoured nation clause, including the right to establish Consular Courts in China.

IT is stated at St. Petersburg that the Egyptian question will be discussed on the opening of the French Parliament, and that an attempt will be made to obtain the British evacuation by united diplomatic

steps. It is understood that France, Russia and Turkey will support the movement, and it is hoped that Germany will also joint it.

HERR Bormann, a German official, is about to start for East Africa to consult Major Wissmann regarding the construction of the first section of the Central African Railway. It is hoped he will obtain the sanction of the Reichstag to begin the railway next spring.

As the ultimatum which was sent to the rebel Chiefs of the Mymie tribe has been disregarded, an expedition of 400 blue-jackets besides Native auxiliaries and 800 porters, left Zanzibar, on the 15th; for Mombasa to attack Mweli.

THE Emperor of Germany arrived at Lowther Castle on Aug. 11 as the guest of Lord Lonsdale. On the 15th he embarked in his yacht for Germany.

PRINCE Francis Ferdinand, the Austrian heir-apparent, is seriously ill with lung catarrh.

THE return of Prince Ferdinand to Sofia has been made the occasion of a loyalist demonstration against the extreme Russophil party. The military element predominated.

THE Czar has ordered that English shall be taught instead of German in the schools at Tashkend.

THE *Times* commenting on the protest of the jute industry says the truth is that, however the competing manufacturers may agitate, the great body of English people wish to see fair play for India, and that the Secretary of State realising this, and having courage to act steadfastly thereon, is master of the situation. India will have no cause for complaint if she is given fair play. But fairness is not always for her. She is sometimes sacrificed to party interests.

CHITRAL will not be annexed to British India but retained. Such is the decision after months of discussion and deliberation. The opinion of Lord Roberts prevails.

A moderate garrison will be retained in Chitral territory, and arrangements will be made by which the road thither by the Panjkora route will be available for postal purposes, for carriage of supplies, and for reliefs. For the present, at any rate, it will be necessary to keep troops on the Malakand and at the Swat river crossing, but from that point to where the road enters Chitral territory tribal arrangements will be made

Two regiments, two mountain batteries, or two guns with two Maxims, will be stationed, while the headquarters will be formed at Kila Drosh

Two Native regiments, two guns and two Maxims, with a Native detachment, will hold from Chitral to Khadrosh, Chitral levies maintaining the line to Dir

The Khan of Dir, with levies, will hold from Dir to Chakdara, and a brigade on the Malakand, with a battalion at Chakdara, will probably complete the line.

The evacuation of the Jandoul Valley was completed on the 14th without a shot being fired. The Sikhs still hold the enclosure to the west of Panjkora river, but were to move early the day after to Sada, leaving a detachment on the bridge.

Umra Khan's relations have settled on various estates in the Jandoul Valley

HERE is how an Anglo-Indian contemporary frets at what he calls the supineness or apathy of the Indian public to the settlement of the Chitral question.—

"The supineness of the Indian public is as irritating as it is irrational. If the voice of the people has a right to be heard upon any matter affecting their welfare, it is surely upon this one. Imperialists who indulge in glorious paragraphs about the advancement of English prestige across the frontier at any cost, should be reminded that it is easy to be reckless of the taxes when other people pay them. This matter is being decided by half-a-dozen men who are ultimately as little concerned with the effects of their action as the Archbishop of Canterbury. But long after they leave the scene of their mistaken effort, if it comes to pass, the rayyet will go hungry oftener because of them, and India a decade behindhand in her development, may look back and thank Lord Elgin's Government for her unprogressiveness. If no action is taken there is little to convince the people of England that India cares much one way or the other, and the views of the Indian military party so omnipotent in the Government here and so strongly represented in the present Cabinet, will naturally prevail. Many Indian grievances of far less importance have been ventilated by all the most approved methods of modern agitation, but we have yet to hear of a single authorized protest being made against the fatuous and ludicrously wasteful policy which seems to be approaching culmination in Chitral."

The native press generally has condemned the retention of Chitral. Our contemporay, however, notices with pain that as yet no authorised protest has been made. Truly, the people of India may very well pause before they make such a protest, seeing that their most solemn protests on other questions go for nothing when the Government of the day, Conservative or Liberal, is bent on carrying out its own resolves.

IN China the person on whose property the remains of a murdered man are found, is held responsible for the murder till the guilty are discovered. One of the consequences of this strange law is that men still breathing under ghastly wounds are refused all assistance. Humanity is as much a virtue in China as anywhere, but the Chinese law prevents people from showing their goodness. The officials are as corrupt as possible. Unable, frequently, to detect the real criminal, they exact round sums of money from persons in whose neighbourhood a crime has been committed. In the early days of British rule in Bengal, some such law of holding the man responsible on whose property a murder was committed was in full force. There was no end of the wrong to which the proprietor was subjected. One of the consequences of this state of things was that people frequently denied ownership and possession of what undoubtedly belonged to them, while others, more courageous, stepped forward as owners and, after standing the worry of Police investigations, had their claims universally allowed. Like inheritance, gift, sale and other known methods of transfer of ownership, responsibility freely admitted under such circumstances, sometimes operated to create a title to land. It was thus that the Mookerjees of Jaual became owners of several miles of the bed of the Saraswati. A considerable portion of Sibpur on the other side of the river changed hands in the same way. So great was the dread of the police when it proceeded to make an investigation that the markets and shops were all closed. Men and women would not stir out of their homes Persons, past fifty years of age, if caught by mischance and questioned by the guardians of peace, alleged non-age and refused to answer the simplest queries. The Zemindar's people had actually to levy a tax, called *Daroga selami*, for inducing the Police to quit the village.

READ the following:—

"Sir George Campbell represented for many years a group of burghs in Parliament. There was a witty Dean in one of them, who was credited with saying, when Sir George appeared, fresh from his Indian career, to contest the seat, that 'he had never had any idea of the extent of the Indian famine until he saw Sir George.' Those who remember (and frequenters of the House a few years ago are not likely to forget it) the tall, spare figure of the member for the Kirkcaldy burghs, will appreciate the Dean's little joke."

Sir George Campbell was not so gaunt when he took charge of the Lieutenant-Governorship of Bengal. He laboured very hard in the post. It was a rule with him never to go to bed until he had disposed of all the cases on his table. Constitutionally of a spare though muscular frame, severe toil told on it. Many of Sir George Campbell's successors have been seen to leave Belvedere with the weight of flesh and the hue of health on their cheeks, although they had neither at the time of entering it. The change in Sir Charles Elliott, however, has been most remarkable. He actually looks much younger than what he was while Chief Commissioner of Assam or Public Works Minister.

THE *Standard* of July 26 writes:—

"At the meeting of the Court of Common Council yesterday, the Library Committee brought up a report on the letter of the Bishop of Stepney asking whether, in the event of the Philological Library of the late Prince Louis Lucien Bonaparte being acquired by public subscription or otherwise, the Corporation would be willing to accept its custody with a view to its preservation in the Guildhall Library. They

recommended that the library, if so acquired, should be accepted, and that 350*l.* should be expended in making certain alterations in the Library for its reception. This was agreed to."

The Prince's Library has been valued at 6,000 guineas, but it is worth a great deal more, as in some departments, for instance in Bisque, English dialects, Finnish and Romanese, it is perfectly unique. The movement is due to Dr. Rost, late librarian of the India Office, at any rate he is assisting as an expert. If the sum is raised and the widow accepts it, she will for that moderate sum render the country in which her husband found a home a most generous and disinterested service. In the Guildhall the books too will be generally accessible.

ONE of the greatest of Sanskrit scholars passed away in Professor Rudolf von Roth. That death has been barely mentioned in the English press. It is race, again. We have much pleasure, therefore, in reproducing from the *Athenæum* the following obituary notice :—

"Prof. Rudolf von Roth, who died at Tubingen in the night from the 22nd to the 23rd of June, after but two days' illness, was born at Stuttgart on the 3rd of April, 1821. After matriculating at the University of Tübingen, he passed through the usual course of a student of divinity, but under the fascinating influence of Ewald's teaching soon devoted himself with ardour to the study of Eastern languages, especially Sanskrit and Persian. Subsequently he spent some time in Paris, Oxford, and London for the purpose of copying and collating Vedic and Zend MSS, and collecting other materials towards the pursuit of the literary researches he had planned out for himself. On his return to Tubingen in 1845, he established himself as a Privatdocent, lecturing on the Hebrew text of the Old Testament and on Sanskrit and Zend. By the publication of his three lectures 'Zur Litteratur und Geschichte des Weda' (1846), containing the first fruits of his Vedic studies—an English translation of which, from the pen of the late Dr. J. Muir, appeared in the *Journal* of the Asiatic Society of Bengal—Roth at once founded a new era in Vedic research. His subsequent works in this field—'Yaska's Nirukta' (1848-52), the 'Atharvaveda,' edited jointly by himself and Whitney in 1856, and various separate treatises—all tended to increase and spread his reputation as an expounder of the Veda, and attracted students from all civilized countries to Tubingen to attend his lectures, while his periodical course on the history of religions commanded even larger audiences. The work, however, with which Roth's name, as the real founder of Vedic philology, will ever be intimately connected is the great 'Sanskrit Dictionary' (seven volumes, folio, St. Petersburg, 1852-75), in which he undertook the Vedic portion and also the medical terms, the remaining classes of Sanskrit words falling to the share of his *collaborateur*, Dr. O. von Boetlingk. As a relief from his professorial lectures, Roth took a keen interest in local archæological researches, the materials of which were supplied to him by the rich university library. He held the post of principal librarian for nearly forty years, and under his able management that institution rose to its present state of usefulness and efficiency. He was up to the last so wedded to his university and its surroundings and personal associations, that he refused all offers of more lucrative appointments made to him from other seats of learning. He belonged to the noblest type of a German university professor. Emolument was the very last consideration in all his literary work, the sole aim and substance of which consisted in the promotion and consolidation of true Oriental scholarship."

Though short, it is a very appreciative notice of the great departed. Weber had spoken of him as "the best of all of us." This opinion will find an echo in the heart of every foremost Sanskrit and Zend scholar except perhaps one whose vanity is supreme. A true German professor, he devoted himself to acquisition and dissemination of knowledge without a thought of aggrandising his own worldly prospects. Richly endowed in the head, he had also a noble heart. A combination which made him estimable both as a professor and as a man. India is as much indebted to him as to Professor Max Muller.

THE case against Mr. Croft, under the Merchandise Marks Act, was transferred from the Court of the Deputy Magistrate of Sealda to that of the District Magistrate of Alipore. The Pleader for Mr. Croft explained that his client had no objection to the nationality of the Deputy Magistrate but that the present case being on all fours with the one already decided by that officer, it was not unreasonable to suppose that he would take a similar view of Mr. Croft's conduct. The Magistrate of the District made over the case to the Joint, Mr. W. B. Thompson, who took it up on Wednesday. Mr. Croft prayed that the hearing might be deferred till after the 28th when his appeal to the District Judge from the order of the Sealda Magistrate would be disposed of. There was no disposition in the Court to grant the adjournment. Application after application was refused. The first objection taken by the Pleader for Mr Croft was that the present proceedings were untenable while the first conviction was in force, in that the offence now charged to him was practically the same for which he had been convicted. The prosecuting Pleader contended, that if in the course of one transaction several acts were committed and if each of these acts or series of acts constituted an offence by itself, the person or persons committing these different acts might be tried for all the offences at one time or at different periods for different offences. The Court agreeing with this interpretation of the law, overruled the first objection. A second objection was made that the records were not in Court. It brought no better result. The hearing then commenced when the third application was filed under section 526 A. of the Criminal Procedure Code for a fortnight's postponement to enable Mr. Croft to move the High Court for transfer of the case. This was a settler. The prosecuting Pleader declared that the section was obligatory. But still he thought there was nothing to prevent the Court from going into evidence if it saw fit to do so. The Court: "You are quite right; but it is not worth while, and so we will not discuss that matter. The case might be transferred to some other Court and have to be heard *de novo*. I must accept this petition although I think it is merely a dodge to gain time. The case is adjourned to the 30th instant." On the application of the Government Prosecutor, an order was made directing that two bottles from each case be sent for examination by an expert, and on its own motion the Court increased the bail to Rs. 500.

A VALUED correspondent, who knows and can speak with authority, speaks of the Sanitary Drainage Bill passed by the Legislative Council of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal thus :—

"The passing of the Sanitary Drainage Bill into law has caused widespread consternation in Behar. They say it is but the thin end of the wedge, and we have the fine prospect of another cess at no distant date. The parties responsible for obstruction of the natural drainage of the country are the Government and the Railway Company and they should in justice pay the greater share of the cost. We have seen that since the introduction of railway in the district of Sarun, malarious fever has been steadily on the increase."

HIS Highness Ihteshan-uddaula Nawab Mahomed Ismail Khan Bahadur Firoz Jung, the Nawab of Jaora, died on the 5th March 1895 He left only one son who is a minor, who was proclaimed Chief of Jaora on the 29th July, under the title of Fukh-rud-daula Nawab Iftikhar Ali Khan Bahadur Saulat Jung. He was placed on the *musnud* by Colonel D. W. R. Barr, the Agent to the Governor General in Central India, who came down from Indore for the purpose. He also announced at the Durbar that

"During the minority of His Highness the Nawab the administration of the Jaora State will, under the order of the Government of India, be left in the hands of Khan Bahadur Yar Mahomed Khan, Minister of Jaora, subject to the general control of the Political Agent in Western Malwa, and under my orders as Agent to the Governor-General for Central India. I confer on Yar Mahomed Khan full civil judicial powers, subject only to the control of the Political Agent and the Agent to the Governor General, and also full criminal judicial powers, with the reservation that all sentences of death shall be subject to confirmation by the Agent to the Governor General."

The Indian Association for the Cultivation of Science.

210, Bow-Bazar Street, Calcutta.

(Session 1895-96)

Lecture by Babu Ram Chandra Datta, F C S, on Monday, the 19th Inst., at 4-15 P.M, *Subject*: Mercury and Bismuth.

Lecture by Babu Ram Chandra Datta, F.C.S, on Wednesday, the 21st inst., at 4-15 P M *Subject*: Copper and Cadmium.

Lecture by Babu Rajendra Nath Chatterjee, M A, on Wednesday, the 21st Inst., at 7-30 P.M *Subject*: Barometer its uses and Boyle's law.

Lecture by Dr. Mahendra Lal Sircar, on Thursday, the 22nd Inst, at 6-30 P.M, *Subject*: Magnetic Induction; Laws of Magnetic Force

Lecture by Babu Ram Chandra Datta, F C S, on Friday, the 23rd Inst., at 4-15 P. M. *Subject*: Tin and Antimony.

Lecture by Dr. Nilratan Sirkar, M A, M D., on Friday, the 23rd Inst., at 6 to 7 P. M. *Subjects*: Chemical Physiology—Carbo-Hydrates.

Admission Fee, Rs. 4 for Physics, and Rs. 4 for Chemistry; Rs. 6 for both Physics and Chemistry; Rs. 4 for Physiology; Rs. 4 for General Biology; Rs. 6 for complete course of Physiology and Biology. The charge for a single lecture is 4 Annas.

MAHENDRA LAL SIRCAR, M.D.,
Honorary Secretary.

August 17, 1895.

The Agent spoke in highly complimentary terms of the minister. :—

"Khan Bhadur Yar Mahomed Khan is an officer of tact, ability and experience, who has already served for eight years as Minister of Jaora and has worked under His Highness the late Nawab with much skill and success. During his administration the debts of the State, which amounted in the year 1885 86, to Rs. 16,60,725-3 have almost been cleared off, while many improvements in the general administration of the State have been established.

Khan Bahadur Yar Mahomed Khan has my full confidence, and I feel sure that during the minority of His Highness, Mahomed Iftikhar Ali Khan, he will continue to conduct the administration with the same ability and zeal that marked his services to my lamented friend the late Nawab Mahomed Ismail Khan, and I expect that all the officials and the subjects of the Jaora State will yield to Khan Bahadur Yar Mahomed Khan the fullest respect and obedience, and will assist him to the utmost of their power in the fulfilment of the important duties which devolve upon him during the minority of the Nawab."

We also hear good accounts of the minister from other quarters. Khan Bahadur Yar Mahomed Khan is a son of the late minister of the State and is related to the Prince. He had been on the Berar Commission and has travelled in Europe.

The Governor-General's Agent concluded saying :—

"Special arrangements will be made for the education and training of His Highness the Nawab, and in fulfilment of my responsibilities as Agent to the Governor-General, and as the personal friend of His Highness' father, it will afford me great pleasure to personally superintend measures that are to be taken under the orders of the Government of India for bringing up His Highness, so that when he attains his majority he may be in every way qualified for the important duties of the ruler of the Jaora State.

I take this opportunity of addressing the Thakurs, who hold villages and lands granted to them by the Jaora State under the guarantee of the British Government, *viz*, the Thakurs of Sadakheri, Sirsi, Borkhera, Kerwasa and Tall. These Thakurs may be assured that the rights guaranteed to them by the British Government will be maintained in their integrity But, on the other hand, I desire to warn these Thakurs that other obligations to the Jaora State, which are clearly stipulated in the *pattas* and *kabuliats* which they hold and have given, must be rigidly observed without excuse or evasion.

During the last few years it has been observed that these Thakurs have attempted to oppose the rightful claims of the Durbar of Jaora, and have endeavoured to establish an independence which is not warranted by the terms of the guaranteed grants under which they hold their *istimrari jagirs*. They should remember that they hold villages granted to them by the Jaora State in consideration of personal attendance, payment of rent, fidelity, and due performance of duty, and it will be to their advantage to remember that any breach of their engagements to the Jaora State will inevitably result in their punishment and the attachment of their villages."

The attitude of the Thakurs imposes an additional responsibility on the Minister Regent. But we trust he will prove equal to the occasion. Of one thing we may sure that when the Prince takes the management in his own hands in proper time, there will be a surplus instead of a deficit in the Treasury.

THE fifth Judge of the Calcutta Small Cause Court, Mr. Abul Hassan, has, it seems, no judicial temper. He has been called upon by the Chief Magistrate to answer a charge of assault on one Abdul Aziz, a dealer in hide, whom, it is alleged, on little or no provocation, he abused in language most offensive to a Mahomedan, whom he caught by the nape of his neck and struck with his clenched fist near the left temple and went on repeating the assault till rescued by Mr. Suhman, a barrister Dealers in hide are not the men to bear an affront so meekly. Oftentimes they are aggressively offensive to their customers, Europeans not excepted. The prestige of a Small Cause Court Judge must be great indeed !

WE are truly sorry for Sir Dinshaw Manickjee Petit. At his age, the death of the son who was to succeed to his baronetcy is a terrible blow He has had three sons The first, Cowasjee, died in 1878. The second, Framjee, is just dead, and the third, Bomanjee, is ailing. In death, as in life, the Parsees are lavishly liberal At the third day ceremony of the death, the Petit family subscribed Rs. 4,03,000 to local charities Sir Dinshaw gave away half a lakh, two and half lakhs being charged to the estate of the deceased.

ON the 5th August, the Officiating Lieutenant-Governor of the N.-W. Provinces laid the foundation stone of the Meerut water works. The feature of these works is that the engines will be worked not by steam, but by water power The Ganges Canal will be utilized for the purpose.

MUCH is made of Babu Hem Chunder Sen as the first and only M D. of the Calcutta University since the adoption of the rule dispensing with the preliminary passing of the B A. examination. Is Dr. Sen better as regards literary accomplishments than his predecessors? It is significant that the Principal of the Medical College has found it necessary to be strict in sending up boys for the medical degrees.

THE Chinese Commissioner not having entered appearance and the season being advanced for work at high altitudes, orders are to be issued for immediate return of the Sikkim Tibet Boundary Commission. The demarcation of the Eastern Pamir region is, however, being pushed on. The Amir's agent reached the camp on Lake Victoria on July 27 and next day the first boundary pillar was fixed

THE jury having found them guilty, the Sessions Judge of Dacca sentenced two youthful Mahomedans, for a horrible outrage on a Mahomedan girl of 16, to seven years' transportation.

TWO sensational murders or rather one murder and one massacre, the first in the Suburbs and the second in the town, are reported this week. In Bhawanipore, a Mahomedan who had only four months married a girl of 11, cut her throat at night when sleeping to prevent her from remaining with her parents whom he suspected of immoral designs on his wife He had wanted to remove her but there was objection from the parents To make an end of all his doubts, he put an end to his innocent girl wife. This reminds us of Nobin's murder of his wife Elokasi—to save her chastity and his honour.

The other is a more ghastly tale. A Bengali, aged about forty, respectably connected, named Annadaprosad Ghose, ran amuck and dangerously wounded three of his own sons and two of his brothers-in-law. His grandfather Ramkumar Ghose came from Bamanpara, in the Howrah Sub-division of the Hooghly district, and settled in Calcutta. He had two sons, the elder of whom Doorga Churn, of a domineering spirit, separated from the father. He was book-keeper to Messrs. Gladstone Wyllie & Co, and left a little fortune at his death 20 years back. He had two wives, the first of whom still lives. She bearing him no son, he, pining for a male heir, took another wife, and after fasts and feasts to Brahman and various other religious rites was at last blessed with a son, the hero of the tragedy. The father's delight knew no bounds when another son was born of the same wife. Happily, she is also dead. Doorga Churn at his death left a little fortune. The heirs-at-law could not agree. They went to law and divided the patrimony. Annada, like his father, has no sweet temper and always ill-treated his wife. A spendthrift, he expended himself in every way. He losing all and growing more cruel to the wife, she removed herself with her children to her father's. There he pursued her and made himself a terror to that household. He was not allowed admittance. This made him furious. Arming himself with deadly weapons, he, at dead of night, climbed into the room where his children were sleeping, hacked three of them and stabbed two of his brothers-in-law who came to their rescue. He had meditated the murder of his wife also. She, however, escaped. She has been a patient wife and a good angel to him But for her he would have been brought to trouble long before

THERE seems to be a fatality about the wills of eminent Bengalis. Even when drafted with sufficient care, the wishes of the testators are somehow circumvented Everybody knows how the will of Raja Kristonath of Cossimbazar, by which that unfortunate young nobleman had devoted the whole of his splendid property to the educational needs of Bengal, was frustrated by the genius of a Brahman lawyer, Hara Chandra Lahiri of Serampore The heir-at-law succeeded to the property which Government wished to administer either as executor if the will held good, or appropriate as its own under the English law against suicide. But it must be admitted that the administration of the estate by the holder has always been for the public good. For there is not another Raja or Rani in Bengal who has been more lavish with her wealth than Maharani Surnamoye. To omit many other wills of millionaires, the next will that was set aside was the famous one of Babu Prosanno Coomar Tagore. The heir-at-law had been disinherited. In the clearest possible language the testator had declared that his only son would take nothing under the will. Prosanno Coomar himself was no mean lawyer, and had consulted not only all the foremost counsel of his day but also some of his friends

among the Judges of the Bengal High Court. The next will whose material provisions have been circumvented is that of Pundit Iswara Chunder Vidyasagar. This will may not be famous for the property dealt by it, but no one can deny that the testator himself was one of the greatest of philanthropists that Bengal has produced. His life is indelibly written in the history of Bengali literature and also in the educational history of his country. Pundit Vidyasagar, like the Tagore Baboo, had disinherited his only son Some of his friends, however, who were unable to move him while alive, joined together after his death in frustrating his deliberate wishes. Influential meetings were held after the Pundit's death for perpetuating his memory. Nobody, however, seemed to care how the deceased philanthropist was treated in the matter of his will. With great difficulty the will was proved. Even this would not have been done but for the single-minded exertions of Mr. W. C. Bonnerjee. Some of the witnesses to the document endeavoured to behave towards the testator who had placed his faith in them as men behave towards a dead lion. Out of the three executors named in the will, one had predeceased the testator; one refused to act; so the document was proved by only one of them After probate was granted by the High Court, the property, we understand, passed over to the disinherited heir To the public at large it matters little who enjoys the property left by Pundit Vidyasagar, although it is impossible not to feel some pity for frustration of his plans after death. The matter, however, does not rest here. The testator had established a Higher Class English School at his native village of Birsinga, called after his mother, "The Bhagavati Vidyalaya." His will contains a bequest of Rs. 100 per month in aid of this institution We regret to learn that the school is in its downward course towards extinction. The two higher classes have been dismissed, and the institution reduced to the rank of what is called "Middle Class English School.' It is time, we think, that Sir Alfred Croft turned his special attention to the school, to preserve, if possible, a monument of the founder's philanthropy, who has done so much for education in Bengal. The Birsing School is, again, as much a public property as the Metropolitan Institution. The desecration of the one has been prevented. Why should not the other be saved?

REIS & RAYYET.

Saturday, August 17, 1895.

A MAHOMEDAN VIEW OF ANGLO-ISLAMIC JOURNALISM IN BENGAL.

THE question has often been asked—Have the Mahomedans of India any newspaper in English which can be strictly called their own—an organ which represents their views correctly and authoritatively on subjects relating to their community? Although repeatedly asked, it has never been answered in the affirmative. There is unfortunately no such representative organ, recognized in all quarters as the true exponent of the views and wants of the Mahomedan community, or which the public can look to for authoritative opinion and reliable information on Mahomedan questions, political, social, or educational. Bengal, which is considered as the most advanced province in the country, where the Mahomedan population is very large, and where there are scores of Mahomedan graduates in every large city, has not yet been able to produce any English newspaper for the Mahomedans which fulfils half the conditions laid down.

The next question which suggests itself is, Why is there not a national organ or true representative paper conducted in a manner consistent with the importance, dignity and literary fame of the community and able to hold its own against English newspapers conducted by the Bengalees or the Parsees?

The explanation usually given is that the Mahomedans are very poor, and for want of sufficient funds they cannot start a respectable and able paper which would meet the requirements of the community. It is also alleged that the existing journals can hardly pay their own expenses, and that they have to devise various means to keep them going. Sometimes compassionate appeals are made to the rich of the community for aid to the socalled national organ, and not unoften the well-to-do are obliged to contribute their mite to this national fund. Officials too have been known to interest themselves in the cause.

When papers under the editorial management of Bengalees, Parsees and Europeans are largely subscribed by Mahomedans, there is no reason why a Mahomedan paper conducted ably on proper lines should not succeed and prosper under the patronage and liberality of its own community. Such a paper would also be equally welcome to other nationalities—Hindus, Parsees, Europeans and all. A newspaper is usually a trading concern and its success depends upon its management. For a national paper and particularly when that nation is much behind the times in education and general progress, there must always be an editor belonging to the same community with a real earnestness of purpose, genuine sympathy, entire devotion, and special sources of information. It is also essential that he should know Arabic and Persian, and be well informed in all Mahomedan matters. Such men, however, are rare in that community. The half a dozen men who come up to the ideal are better employed in other spheres and cannot be expected to take charge of a concern which does not pay. European, Eurasian and Hindu Editors of Mahomedan journals have been tried, here and elsewhere, and they have not succeeded, because they did not know the subjects with which they were to deal, nor could they have any real sympathy with the community whose paid advocates they were.

The Mahomedans themselves are to blame for this state of things. They can talk a good deal and live beyond their means. They can be proud of not understanding Bengalee but they shew no real taste for English literature or their own. Among hundreds of Mahomedan graduates there is not any man in Bengal, except perhaps Mr. Justice Amir Ali, who has written any book in English worth perusal on any important or interesting subject. There are hardly three Mahomedans in Bengal who have ever contributed anything to any of the daily and weekly papers or magazines which attracted public notice. Vernacular journalism in Bengal among Mahomedans is equally lamentable. There is not one Urdu paper worthy of note Not one Mahomedan graduate is engaged in conducting any such paper. Not one graduate is qualified to write Urdu correctly and ably. Why this dearth? Because the Mahomedans after leaving college bid farewell to all books. They only seek Government employment or run to the Bar where the chances are not always good. They do not understand the true value of knowledge. They cannot appreciate independent profession. They do not seek knowledge for its own sake. They do not think for a moment what good a man can do to his community by his pen if he knows how to wield it. If some Mahomedan

graduates, under-graduates, or other students had devoted themselves to improving their journalism, it would have paid them better and at the same time done good to the community

Unless some persons make literature their profession, there is little hope of a qualified Mahomedan editor and a well conducted respectable journal. Editors who cannot distinguish between Persian prose and poetry, cannot be expected to do the duty of an editor of a Mahomedan journal.

If the Mahomedans want to better their political position and protect their interests, they must wake up from their deep slumber. No amount of tall talk and pride of past glory will raise them in the scale of nations and help them in keen competition in these hard days. The only way to prepare them for the contest is to start some good vernacular and English journals. Some patriotic and high-minded Mahomedans ought to take to the profession of journalism and devote their lives to the social and political welfare of the community. There are hundreds of subjects of vital interest to that community, but how few of them are taken up or properly dealt with by the existing Mahomedan journals! This neglect can only be due to ignorance or incompetence.

The half dozen Urdu journals which are published in Bengal and Behar, are not worth the paper on which they are printed. They are a disgrace to the community whom they profess to represent. The Mahomedans of these Provinces ought to blush at these miserable rags. They bode no good to the present generation of educated Mahomedans in Bengal. On the contrary, they raise doubts whether the graduates themselves are well versed in Urdu or Persian. The present writer has known Mahomedan examiners in those languages selected by the Syndicate of the Calcutta University, who cannot speak Urdu as decently as any Khidmatgar of the Nawab Bahadur of Moorshedabad. It is strange that many who foolishly hate Bengalee do not know Urdu or know it less than Bengalee.

Letter to the Editor.

THE LORD'S SONG.

SIR,—I have read with interst your review of Mrs. Annie Besant's new translation of the *Gitá*. It undoubtedly possesses many merits. At the same time, it is not free from errors of rendering. Verse 32 of the Eleventh Lesson is really a crux to European scholars. Even Mr. Davis, who is generally very accurate and whose English translation of the *Gitá* is regarded to have supplanted the earlier versions of Thompson and Gladwin, and which is in some respects better than Telang's in the *Sacred Books of the East* edited by Professor Max Müller, has not been able to render the verse correctly. The original is,

Kalosmi lokakshayakrit,
Pravriddho lokan samahartumiha pravrittah,
Ritepi tvam na bhavishynti saurve
Yevasthitah pratyanikeshu yodhah.

Correctly rendered, the verse would read, "I am Time, the destroyer of the worlds. Swelling with might, I am now engaged in destroying all creatures! Even without thee, all these warriors that stand in the several divisions, will cease to be!"

What Krishna wishes to say is that the warriors assembled together in Kúrukshetra would all be destroyed even if Arjuna refused to slay them. Sreedhara, in his gloss, explains,

"Rit tvam hautaram vina," *i. e.*, without thee acting as a slayer. Sankara also explains,—"Ritapi Vinapi," &c.

Now read Mrs. Besant's version :

"Time am I, laying desolate the world,
Made manifest on earth to slay mankind!
Not one of all these warriors ranged in strife
Escapeth death; thou shalt alone survive."

The error is as gross as the one pointed out in the review.

BHARGAVA.

Calcutta, August 12.

THE INSANITATION OF CALCUTTA.

THE HEALTH OFFICER'S ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS AT THE GENERAL COMMITTEE ON AUGUST 10.

Question.—Will the Health Officer be good enough to inform the Commissioners whether he is aware of the existence of any special cause or causes, which have lately rendered the condition of Calcutta "highly insanitary" beyond, of course, the original defects in the construction of the sewage system? If so, when did he draw the attention of the Commissioners to the same and what were his recommendations for the removal or mitigation thereof.

Answer.—I am not aware of the occurrence of any special cause or causes of a new character tending to render the conditions of Calcutta more insanitary lately than in previous years; nor do I think in analysing the development of the diseases which have recently prevailed in Calcutta are there to be found any strikingly new features which would render the existence of such causes probable. The unusual mortality and sickness in Calcutta were due to the great prevalence of small-pox and of fevers. As regards small-pox its epidemiology is characterised by a periodicity which manifests itself every 4 or 5 years in almost all unvaccinated and overcrowded centres of population. This has been the experience of Calcutta ever since statistics have been recorded. The origin of the periodicity and the causes which give rise to the severity of the disease in particular years have not yet been elucidated by science.

With reference to fevers, although there was a large increase last year, a tendency to increase has been observed since 1889. The figures are as follows :—

Year.		Deaths.		Ratio.
1889	...	3,307	...	7·7
1890	...	4,112	...	9·4
1891	...	4,614	...	10·5
1892	...	4,593	...	10·5
1893	...	4,713	...	10·7
1894	...	5,667	...	12·9

From these figures it will be seen that as regards the production of the rise in fevers, there are causes continuously at work in Calcutta, and that there is no occasion to look for special causes for an explanation. Of the permanent conditions rendering Calcutta insanitary the most important is certainly that mentioned by the Commissioner, *viz.*, the defective condition of the sewerage, a condition which I pointed out from the first year I had the opportunity of examining the sanitary condition of Calcutta.

Question.—Of the several epidemics to which Calcutta is periodically subject, will the Health Officer kindly state those which have recently recurred with greater frequency and increasing severity? what is the total number of deaths from such diseases in each during 1891 and 1894, and the percentage thereof, in relation to the population?

Answer.—The deaths and death-rates from fever and small-pox are to be seen in the following table :—

From the table (which is omitted here) it appears that in the Town Area deaths from fever in 1891, 1892, 1893 and 1894 were respectively 4,614; 4,593; 4,713; and 5,667; the ratios being 10·5; 10·5; 10·7 and 12·9. Deaths from small-pox during the same period were 13; 16; 13; and 346: the ratios being ·02; ·03; ·02 and ·74. Comparing the fever statistics of the town with those of the suburbs, we find the ratio of the town which is sewered fast approaching the ratio of the suburbs which is undrained, the ratios being now respectively 12·9 and 14·3.

Of other epidemics the cholera ratio was high in 1891, the year of the 'Ardhadoya Jog,' when the deaths amounted to 2,955, but since then it has been below the average. There have been no other epidemics.

Question.—Will the Health Officer kindly lay before the Commissioners statistics showing the total number of deaths from typhus and typhoid fevers in each year during 1891 to 1894, and specifying the localities in which these occurred?

Answer.—There were no cases of typhus fever recorded between

1891 and 1894. Of typhoid fever, there were 7 deaths in 1891, 4 in 1892, 8 in 1893 and 6 in 1894. A large proportion of these were reported from the Calcutta Hospitals. The Commissioners will observe that these numbers refer to mortality and not to sickness; and if there has been any increase of cases, the disease has not been of a fatal form.

Question.---Is the Health Officer aware of the existence of the plague in China referred to in the letter of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce to the Local Government, dated 10th July, 1895? What are the characteristics of the disease? How does it originate and how is it propagated? Is there any reasonable probability of the plague breaking out in the city in the near future? If so, has the Heath Officer drawn the attention of the Commissioners and the public to the matter, and when?

Answer.---Yes. The chief feature of the plague consists in an exceedingly painful and swollen affection of the lympathic glands preceded by high fever, vertigo, flushed face, intense thirst, vomiting and delirium. The mortality is the highest observed in any other disorder varying from 80 to 97 per cent. The disease is contracted chiefly by those who reside in or visit infected centres, and it attacks more especially overcrowded and filthy localities. The infection does not seem to travel long distances. The lower animals such as cows, buffaloes, goats, rats, mice, &c., take the infection and probably propagate the disease. During the outbreak in Hongkong, Kitasato, a Japanese Physician and Scientist, and Y'hersin, a French Physician and Scientist, discovered a microbe which they proved to be the cause of the disease. The plague remains in a latent state in China, and from time to time acquires exceptional activity from causes which are unkown. It spreads from locality to locality, probably by human intercourse, and in this respect the fact is important that the period of incubation is usually about 7 days and probably not longer than 12. Accordingly, one of the most effective measures for protecting Indian ports distant about three weeks from China, consists in medical inspection and a quarantine and disinfection of suspected and infected vessels. At the time of the prevalence of plague in Hongkong, I discussed the necessary measures with the Health Officer of the Port, and these were put into practice by the orders of the Lieutenant-Governor. The disease is slow in travelling, has not a long period of incubation, and Calcutta is a three week's voyage from China, so that with precautions to the inspection and disinfection of ships arriving from infected ports in China, there is a very little probability of the plague breaking out in the city in the near future. As regards the susceptibility of the disease in Hongkong in the different races, the following order was noted:- Chinese, Japanese, Hindus from India, Malays, Jews, Parsees and English.

Question.---In his opinion what precautions other than those associated with pratique should be taken to guard the Metropolis against the breaking out of the plague? Has he made any recommendations to the Commissioners for the adoption of those precautions? If so, when; if not, why not?

Answer.---Every one knows that quarantine is a measure of only relative efficacy, and if once the plague should be admitted either by land or water, the conditions in Calcutta would render it an easy prey to its ravages. It is against these conditions that the necessary measures should be pressed on, and I enumerated these measures in detail in the report for the first quarter of this year. Of these conditions the most important are overcrowding and pollution of the soil. The distribution of the inhabitants of a town are beyond the direct control of a Municipality, and can only be influenced by regulating the distribution of the houses. This, in every town, is effected by the Municipality armed with an efficient Building Act. As regards the pollution of the soil, Mr. Baldwin Latham showed that the outfall of the Calcutta sewerage was obstructed by tidal influences, that the sewers were sewers of deposit, that they leaked into the subsoil, and that there was a constant interchange between the sewage, rainfall and subsoil water. That a number of the sewers leak has been proved by uncovering them for inspection; that the soil is polluted has been determined by analysis; that the subsoil water is contaminated has been ascertained by the analysis of the water of wells; so that this condition of affairs produces a sort of *Goragacha* throughout Calcutta. Since Mr. Baldwin Latham's visit to Calcutta, I have, in every Annual Report, drawn special attention to the urgency of carrying out his recommendations, and the dager of delay which is now demonstrated from the fact that there were nearly 1,000 more deaths in 1894 from fevers than in 1893, andjthat the increase during the 6 months of the year has been nearly 900 compared with the corresponding season of last year.

The only means in my opinion to obviate in an efficient and satisfactory manner this state of affairs, is to take immediate steps to invite an expert of the experience of Mr. Baldwin Latham to visit Calcutta to draw up the designs for the necessary works, more specially with reference to the outfall of the city, to plan the suburban drainage and set the works in motion under a Superintending Drainage Engineer; and further to appoint this expert as Consulting Engineer, so that he may have complete charge and responsibility of the works, and inspect periodically their progress until they are finished.

I believe it is only by reduction of overcrowding by a Building Act and by immediate and radical measures in regard to the purification of the soil both in the town and suburbs that it is possible to secure a proper remedy for the present state of things.

W. J. Simpson, M.D.,
Health Officer.

August 7, 1895.

SIR W. W. HUNTER ON EDUCATION OF INDIAN WOMEN.

HIS SPEECH AT THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE NATIONAL INDIAN ASSOCIATION IN AID OF SOCIAL PROGRESS AND EDUCATION IN INDIA.

Sir W. W. Hunter, K.C.S.I., said: My Lords, ladies and gentlemen---The Council have asked me to submit the following resolution to the meeting: "That this meeting, recognising the increasing desire for education among Indian women, and appreciating the efforts already made by the National Indian Association to meet the demand, earnestly trusts that the public will generously support this important part of the Association's work." The Council wish me, in laying the motion before you, to say a few words in regard to the exact position of the Association towards female education in India, and to state to you our immediate reasons for making this appeal. The question which will occur to many of you is this: Is there any serious ground for asking the public to help us in our work? Now, first, as regards our exact position towards female education. We have heard some admirable remarks from Lord Harris as to the work done by the Association with the view of bringing Indians and Europeans together. We have also had from Sir Charles Crosthwaite a lucid narrative of the early failure and more recent success of the movement for female education in the North Western Provinces. I, therefore, pass from State efforts, but before saying what I have to say I should like to heartily recognise the great services which have been rendered by the missionary bodies towards female education in India. The missionaries have been the pioneers of all education in India--of education for the highest as for the lowest classes, and especially for the women of India. The result is now becoming apparent, A generation of educated Indian women, few in numbers at present but full of promise for the future, has grown up.

You will find that almost all these educated women of India who have made their mark in our day were native Christians, or were educated under missionary influence. The result is no doubt an honourable one for missionary enterprise; but how does it strike the natives of India? Take the list of these women of mark; take Toru Dutt, the distinguished poetess of Bengal, or Mrs. Sathianadhan, the novelist of Madras, whose works are so racy of the soil; or take the distinguished women whose memoirs form the subject of Mrs. Chapman's most interesting book. Almost without exception they are the product of missionary education. Now, as Lord Harris has explained and as Sir Charles Crosthwaite has enforced, female education appears to Indian men in a threatening light. Female education, in the opinion of many of them, means not only a social revolution but a religious revolt. Female education is in part the product of a desire for better things amongst the natives of India, but chiefly hitherto of evangelising influences foreign to them. I put it to you, ladies and gentlemen, supposing a system of education were introduced into this country from without a system of which we had some apprehension: supposing that system were maintained among our girls by the missionaries of a foreign religion, let us say of the Hindu religion, or of the Buddhist religion, or even of the Roman Catholic religion, what a sense of fear would it spread among our English homes!

Now, why have the missionaries had this---I will not say monopoly---but this immense share in female education? It is because the State finds it extremely difficult to interfere in the matter. At one time it was my duty to visit the female schools throughout the various Provinces of India, in order to draw up a scheme for extending education. I found when I had written the chapter on female education in the Report of the Commission that it was a mere chapter of difficulties. It was not a chapter of how to do it, but of the difficulty of doing it. That difficulty remains to this day. The State, as Lord Harris has very properly said, can interfere only very charily in the matter. What agency then can take its place, and so dissociate female education from the idea of a religious revolt in the Hindu mind? It is the agency of sympathetic but unsectarian private effort. That agency has many workers among the natives of India themselves---native workers from His Highness the Gaikwar of Baroda, whose brother has just now so ably explained what is being done in that kingdom; to the Maharaja of Mysore, the good and noble young prince whose

loss we have so recently had to deplore, but whose place is taken in Bengal and in the North West Provinces, as we have just heard, by other men of rank equally desirous of advancing the condition of their country-women. There is a noble native agency at this moment at work in India, but like most native agencies at present it requires encouragement, guidance, and support from England. That guidance and that support the National Indian Association endeavours to give. The National Indian Association takes the women of India as they are. It does not seek to destroy their religion. It accepts the basis of existing institutions, and it merely tries to render the women of India more intelligent companions as the wives of educated husbands, and more intelligent mothers for educated children. It aims to effect for the female mind in India what Lady Dufferin's splendid enterprise does with regard to their physical needs. It is the true complement of the work which is being carried on by Lady Dufferin's Fund, and, alas! on a scale infinitely below its requirements.

The men of India are advancing hand over hand. We are creating a new race of men whose future it is impossible to predict; but while the men are going forward the women hang behind; and a man when he marries finds himself belonging to one century and wedded to a century far back. That is our position towards female education in India. Sir Charles Crosthwaite came before you able to say that he had to ask for no money. I am in a less fortunate position, for I have to explain that we do need money. Education is nowhere (especially at starting) self supporting. I suppose in no country in the world is female education more valued than here among us. Go to Cambridge and you will see Girton and Newnham; go to Oxford and you will see Lady Margaret's Somerville and St. Hugh's---very fine buildings, noble institutions; but how built and how supported? Are they built by the parents of the students, or as commercial speculations? Are they even supported by those who profit by them? Certainly not. They were built by outside help, and they are maintained by outside help. Therfore, in asking for outside help towards the education of the women of India, this Association is making no novel demand, but making a demand which has been again and again made for the women of England themselves.

These institutions at Oxford and Cambridge almost always date from some pious founder. Well, we, too, date from a pious foundress---Miss Mary Carpenter. Miss Mary Carpenter was not only our pious foundress, but she was our chief, I was going to say, our only benefactress. What she wanted to see done was this. She did not desire any new departure (the danger of which Lord Harris has pointed out); what she desired was to see the work, which native gentlemen of India were themselves taking up, helped and guided by sympathetic aid from England.

Now, ladies and gentlemen, what practical form does our aid take? It provides, first, scholarships; second, home teaching; third, assistance to schools; and fourth, the training of teachers and training schools for young Hindu widows. We have heard from Lord Harris, and in Lady Harris's admirable note, the work that has been done in Bombay. Indeed, the first article in our *Magazine* for May deals with female education in Bombay in a very interesting manner. Madras has always been in the forefront of our work, and in speaking of Madras I should like to say a word, in which I am sure you will all join me---a word of sorrow for the death of one of the most devoted educationalists that ever went from this country to India. The loss of Mr. Grigg, formerly Director of Public Instruction in Madras, leaves a blank in our system of education, and throws a most serious responsibility upon those who now have to carry on the work, which he and Mrs. Grigg so long carried on, of female education in Madras.

I will take only one Presidency of India and a single example of our work in it---our Widows' Home in Bengal. That is not a Christian institution, but an institution maintained by a Brahman ---Mr. Sasipada Banerji and his wife. This lady and gentleman have a house outside Calcutta, which, under the auspices of our Calcutta Branch, they have turned into an Institution of unique interest. It is not only a day school for girls, with 128 pupils attending it, but it is also a training school---a normal college you may call it, for the training of teachers, and also a home for widows. Some 19 Hindu widows are boarded in the house and are being trained to useful professions; 25 have already left the Home and are helping to instruct others. These poor women who have hitherto been denied any *rôle* in life are being qualified for a useful career. There are 14 other boarders, many of them of high caste, and two of them little girls who have been deserted by their high caste husbands. In this Institution you have many varieties of educational work. You have little girls to the number of 128 in the school-rooms; you have the boarders, 33 in number, learning to become teachers: among them 19 widows receiving a new careerin life. Mr. Banerji has also a large sphere of usefulness in the country around him with 14 district centres. To each of these 14 centres he sends either an educated widow or a Hindu lady teacher, and in each of them there is a group of homes who subscribe for these ladies' teaching. In this way a real but non-destructive education is brought within the reach of a number of our fellow subjects in that part of India. If we could help this institution sufficiently, it would double its work within three years. If we had only funds we could establish institutions of the kind in every Province of India.

There is a demand in India for education for girls, but for a constructive education---not a revolutionary education or one destructive of their religion. Until we have satisfied that demand we can never say that we have satisfied the claims of India upon our philanthropic zeal. I should like to mention a single case to show how our Widows' Home in Bengal practically works. One Child was left a widow at the age of 5½ years. She has been nearly 7 years in the Home and her mother, herself a young widow, came to the Home with her: I think the mother's age was 14 or 15 when her husband died. They learnt out of the same book, and the mother is now a teacher in the school. That single story illustrates the pathetic opportunities which constantly present themselves. Therefore, ladies and gentlemen, I ask you to help us, and I ask the public outside to help us, not to create a revolutionary education in India, but to aid in our efforts to establish a true female education on an unsectarian basis and upon non-destructive principles.

STARVED INTO MUTINY.

A FAMOUS mutiny on shipboard came to pass in this way: When the ship, which had sailed from London, was well down the Channel, it was found that the provisions intended for the use of the crew were rotten and, of course, uneatable. The men complained to the captain, who promised to put into into some neat port and exchange the bad stores for good. He failed to keep his word, and as the poor sailors couldn't sail the ship 10,000 miles on empty stomachs, they killed the captain and mate, helped themselves to the cabin provisions, held high jinks for a few weeks, and finally scuttled the ship, put off in the boats, and were all lost but three. The captain could have prevented all this if he had chosen to; but perhaps the owners and he had put up the bad job on the men. Very likely, and got served out for it. They were both criminals and fools.

But there are ships that must needs sail to the end of the voyage with only the original stores. Come what may, they can't go back or put into any port. Some are well found and others badly; and so voyages differ.

To modify the illustration, the latter kind of vessels are human beings. At birth we sail on a voyage, which by rights ought to be *seventy years* long. But how many of us continue on the Sea of Life that long? Very few comparatively. Most of us go down sooner. Why? Because we recklessly, carelessly, or ignorantly waste the stock of *vital force* with which Nature endows us at the start. There are no meat shops or bakeries on the Atlantic, nor are there any places after birth where we can beg or buy more "*life*." This is perfectly plain to me. Is it plain to you? I am afraid it isn't. Let's see whether a little incident will throw light on it.

Mr. Henry Fish had been a fortunate man. His forbears had done well by him. Up to the Autumn of 1890 he could say, "I have always been strong and healthy." For thirty years he had worked as a painter for one employer. He must have been not only a healthy man, but a good painter. So far his "vitality," his *constitution*, had been equal to all demands on it. It had endured a lot of hard work, resisted the weather, and digested his food. Then it refused to go on. It struck work. It wouldn't make sail or pull an oar. In plain English the symptoms or signs of the trouble were these: Loss of appetite, bad taste in the mouth, terrible pains after eating, yellow eyes and skin, and rheumatic gout in the feet. His legs and stomach became fearfully swollen, and his heart palpitated and thumped frightfully nearly all the time. On account of the distress given him by solid food he could only eat slops, and not much strength can be got out of them.

By-and-by the best he could do was to hobble about on crutches He could not lie abed at all, because he couldn't draw his breath when lying down. For over a month he snatched what sleep he could when supported upright on his crutches. Just think of that, and be thankful it wasn't your case. He wasn't able to lift his hand to his mouth, and had to be nursed night and day. He got so low (in spite of doctors attending him) that he didn't expect to live, and didn't desire to. One doctor said he had heart disease, and that his heart was big as a bullock's which was nonsense. During all this illness Mr. Fish had a professional nurse from a convalescent home. When he had sunk so low as to make it a wonder how he kept alive at all, he first heard of the medicine which finally cured him. In concluding his letter he says, "After beginning to take Mother Seigel's Curative Syrup I never looked behind me. I got stronger every day, and have ailed nothing since. This medicine saved my life, and I want the public to know it (Signed) Henry Fish, Great Malvern, County of Worcester, January 12th, 1893"

Only a word more. We spoke of men and women being like ships that have to sail to the end of the voyage with what supplies they start with. By that we mean, not supplies of food, *but supply of power to digest food.* You see the difference? Bread and meat are no better than lead and leather if you can't digest them. In Mr. Fish's case it was not food that failed, but *power to use it.* He had indigestion and dyspepsia. The wonderful remedy discovered by Mother Seigel stopped the waste of vitality caused by the disease, and enabled Nature to use food to build up the perishing body. He will now proceed, we hope, towards the port of Old Age, with favouring winds.

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AND

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DROIT ET AVANT.

Rejs and Rayyet

(PRINCE & PEASANT)

WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

VOL. XIV. CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, AUGUST 24, 1895. WHOLE NO. 689.

CONTEMPORARY POETRY.

SIR WALTER RALEIGH:

THE THOUGHTS AND FEELINGS WHICH LED HIM TO PROPOSE HIS SCHEME CONCERNING EL DORADO.

SCENE—*The tower, with a lattice that does not admit a view of the rising or setting sun.*

'T IS long since I have seen the pilgrim-sun
Gird up his garments for the dusky day,
His locks wreathed tight about his decent brow:
'T is long since I have seen them shaken out
Upon his shoulders—when the modest youth
Reels to his couch, like tired Bacchanal;
The rich clouds hanging glory round his path.
But *something* I can see—the comely moon,
With well-filled horn, shines in a summer sky
That grows not dark till morn!—now like a bow
Drawn by aërial archer—yon bright star,
An arrow that hath parted from the string,
Is on its way—and now she is a bark
Ploughing a summer sea, so calmly blue!
Such as round fairy islands of the west
Flows breathlessly. Ah! that *such* bark were *mine*.
This prison, smaller than a cabin, hath
No such sweet progress; in its arms we sleep
For aye forgotten as in Death's small crib.
Its profitless confinement bears not onward!
Hark! there are merry tones of children round me,
Music that steals as from the gate of heaven
To hell's deep womb—huge fireworks that mimic
Those strange appearances by Genii wrought
Amid autumnal clouds—cities in flame,
And men that fight and die. You coloured lamps
Outrival dew-drops of the morn, or gems
Deep in the earth. Oh! that I could wring out
From demon-miners treasures hid in vain,
Like love in the sick hearts of pallid nuns.
Could I but bear some here, forgiveness, fame,
Might dance around me—better far than these,
Action, that tide that stirs the stagnant blood—
Courage that thrown upon a dung-heap mounts
Once more its fiery horse. What do *I* here?
I have schooled my boiling thoughts, and learnt and taught
What meek-eyed sages tell, with rocky brow,
And hearts that beat calm as an infant's breath—
I *had* given back my birthright, but for *whom?*
Not to the winds—not to *thee*, marble death!
Yet thou hast trampled on it—*thou* hast rent
The precious crucible in which 't was poured;
Thou hast enclosed within a narrow tomb
A spirit linked with mine Six months ago
And I was busy as a clerk could be
Conning the golden past, whence fancy mounts,
And feeding for *his** roots a noble stream—
Now 'tis a river locked within a cave,
Having *no* egress. Now I weave no more
The mingled web of acts and lessons wise.
Six months ago, and he was like a bee,
Sucking *in* nectar from the flowers that lay
Opening beneath *my* sun, and giving back
The honey of sweet praise, and dearest love,
And dearest sympathy. I was to him
A lofty hill, around whose storm-swept peaks
His thoughts like clouds might gather;—he is gone—
I was not near to soothe his dying head
And yet my cordials, drawn from many an herb,
Sedulously sought in days of liberty,
On home and foreign shores, relieved thy pain
The *very* hour before thy soul took flight.
Sweet noble prince! who even so *early* learnt
The combat between subject, filial love,
And sense of right—a royal love of greatness.
The serpent breeds the eagle, and *some* say
It *stung* him too—may God forgive the thought!
Sweet moon, thou'rt shining as thou shon'st that night
Upon his torch-lit funeral—lighting now
His sister's bridal train—it follows quick—
The nation's tears are dry—my well of grief
Is what it *was*. My land, too, *it* is gone.
The scenes of pleasures sweet, and graceful toil—
My walks and stately trees, given to a *thing*
Polluting what it crawls o'er; and I begged,
I sent my gentle wife to beg in *vain*—
That *his* fair dawn might not be clouded o'er
With *such* a veil—that his free hand might pause
Ere it cut down the old paternal tree,
Yielding its fruit to feed my little ones,

(*His wife enters*)

My own Elizabeth! the time seems long
That thou hast left me—wert thou gazing down
Upon this pageant city—dost *thou, too*,
Forget the grave, and him who sleeps therein?
My thoughts have ranged over *all* past, all future;—
I thought on *thee*, when for *thy* sake the first
I slept within a prison's walls, and knew
Its gloomy leisure, and of our sweet babe
That, like a flower in a dark cavern, cheered
The blackness of the place—and of *this* king,
A sterner master in his boyishness

*Prince Henry, for whom Raleigh wrote his "History of the World."

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Than our old prudish mistre
Whom the domestic charities
No lessons of sweet wisdom.
Of freedom, my beloved !—
A pastoral cot within a lone
No : England's woods may
Over *my* brows ; and quiet
Companions for the *wild* at heart. I see
Vast wealth, bright mines of gold, and beauty *strange*,
That will not dim mine eyes with girlish tears,
Where deep and boundless rivers teach to flow
A nobler tide within the human heart,
And mountains, standing like Omnipotence,
Rise *above* earthly things ! My boy, too, goes—
My gallant Walter !—either to wreath his brow
As *trees* in their young spring, or die wrapt round
In his *first* glory. Thou, my dear, wilt live
With our young poet René—let him dream
Of glorious cities, and untrodden seas,
And beauteous *monsters*—only named *so*,
Because their forms, like angels, are *not known* ;
And let him hang above thee as a bow
Over the Autumn woods, whose changing leaf
Hath glory, beauty, tenderness, *not* seen
In their rich prime. *Now leave* me, my beloved.
I write a letter, worded cautiously,
To this royal pedant, hung with golden phrase
Of wealth, to tempt his pleasure and his pride !

WEEKLYANA.

JAPAN is on the highway to fame as a military Power. She has beat China in war, and is inventing weapons of destruction. After years of experiment, one of her sons has perfected a new rifle and obtained permission to manufacture it. The weapon to said to have five advantages over any rifle now in use in Japan, namely, (1) its reduced weight and easier action ; (2) less powder is required than for any other arm of equal power ; (3) 175 rounds can be fired in the same time or 75 more than from any other gun ; (4) the manufacturing cost is less ; (5) while the existing rifle cannot be discharged when even a trifling obstacle gets into the lock, the new one can be fired even in sand, and the barrel will not burst if 80,000 rounds be fired from it.

***

THE Legal Practitioners' Act is being amended. The Law Member has introduced a Bill for better and speedier suppression of law-touting. It is proposed to empower the High Courts to suspend or dismiss any pleader or mooktear found guilty of unprofessional conduct and authorize the District and Sessions Judges and Commissioners of Divisions to punish, in the same way, revenue agents, pleaders or mooktears who are found or reputed to be habitual dalals or law touts, the suspension or dismissal by these authorities being subject to an appeal to the High Courts.

The Lieutenant-Governor of the Punjab strongly supported the measure. He said that professional men generally looked on the habit of touting as most mischievous. Whatever the stringency of the law, the practice will continue, for it has support in high quarters supposed to be above low practices.

***

THE Code of Criminal Procedure is also to be tinkered. The object of the Bill introduced for the purpose by Sir Alexander Miller is stated to be "to give effect to certain recommendations made by the Commission appointed to enquire into the trial by Jury system." From a telegram in the *Englishman* it appears that all the recommendations have not been accepted. Among other things, it is proposed to empower Judges to require from jurors, either before or after, or both before and after, the return of their verdict, separate guidings on issues of fact. Without the Bill and the speech of the Law Member which have not yet reached Calcutta, it is too early to speak on the subject. We only hope the system of trial by jury will not be undermined in view of its abolition at a future date.

THE Government offices will close at Simla on the 2nd November reopening at Calcutta on the 4th.

***

YESTERDAY, at the Town Hall, Lord Sandhurst was installed District Pro-Grand Master of Freemasonry in Bombay and its territories. The ceremony was completed, as in all British gatherings, by a banquet at which two hundred brethren were present.

***

The High Court has quashed the conviction in the Budh Gya temple case. Both the Judges hold that no offence was committed under section 296 of the Indian Penal Code, and that the worship of Dharmpala and his associates was not lawful.

***

WE had a hero of 132 fights in Calcutta. There is now a slayer of 12 panthers in the Vizagapatam Agency Tracts. The young Maharaja of Jeypore, a pupil of Mr. Marsh, writes to a contemporary

"On Monday, the 22nd ultimo, at 1 P. M., I received news from Sanokandi, a village 5 miles from Jeypore, that a panther had killed a cow the previous night. I started at 4 o'clock ; but, owing to bad roads, did not arrive before 6 o'clock. I got into the machan that had been prepared for me at 7 o'clock. There was very heavy rain, and the night was very dark. The panther came at 8 o'clock. I heard the noise of the panther feeding on the kill, and, aiming at the spot I judged the panther to be in, I fired, and luckily struck the beast on the right side. He roared when he was struck, and ran about 30 yards. It was too dark to follow him that night, but next morning the villagers found him dead, and brought his carcass to my fort. It measured 7 feet 5½ inches. On Tuesday, the 23rd idem, I received *khubbar* at 3 o'clock that a panther had killed a dog in the village of Umie, 3 miles from Jeypore. As on Monday it was raining hard and very dark, so I had to judge from the crunching of the panther where he was. I got into the machan at 7 o'clock, and had to wait till 9 o'clock for the panther. As on the former occasion I had judged accurately, so I was again fortunate enough to send a bullet into the shoulder, which killed him on the spot. The panther measured 6 feet 10½ inches. I came home at 10 P.M. On Thursday, the 25th idem, at 3 o'clock *khubber* of another kill by a panther at Kokahandi, another village near Jeypore, reached me. I started at 4 o'clock. Here the kill was near a house, so a machan was not necessary. I took my station in the house, and loop-holed the wall facing the kill. The panther came at 9 o'clock. The night was clear, so I had a good aim. I fired and sent a bullet right through the head. The panther fell at once and never moved. It was 6 feet 5 inches long. I returned home at 10 o'clock. I have now shot 12 panthers."

The Maharaja is still very young and may yet outnumber the fights of the hero. It is to be desired that under Mr. Marsh's tuition he will prove more than a good shot in the dark, and smell rats as well as panthers.

***

FOR valuable assistance rendered in conciliating the rival religious factions in the town of Yeola, the Governor of Bombay in Council has conferred on Gapdrao Shivdeo, Rajah Bahadur, of Malegaon, a Second Class Sardar of the Deccan, the dignity and status of a Sardar of the First Class.

***

MOUVI A. Q. M. Noorul Alam, of the Calcutta Mediressah, has addressed the following circular to the parents and guardians of the students of that institution :—

"The undersigned begs to remind the parents and guardians of the students attending the English Department of the Calcutta Madrasah, the *Alma Mater* of the Mahomedan Education in these Provinces, and now a century old, that the total absence of religious training at school or at any other place renders young minds free to adopt the views and habits of others, without knowing whether those ideas and habits are consonant with the tenets of Islam. Obstacles to the advancement of Religious Education exist both at school and at home—at school, because the University dispenses with religious training ; at home, because it has prescribed a course of subjects in learning which Indian students can spare but little, if any, time for religious education. After completing their University career, worldly cares beset them to such an extent that they feel no inclination in this direction. There is thus a great danger of a revolution in the religious sentiments of the rising generation. The adoption of foreign ideas and customs has produced an alarming increase in disobedience and insubordination on the part of the young. The young and inexperienced feel no scruple in doing actions and in eating food that are strictly forbidden by Mahomedan Law. Only recently the insubordination and irreverence of school-going boys roused the Government to accord its serious attention to the matter, and hence in 1888 an opportunity was given to the public to discuss the subject. From the report on 'Discipline and Moral Training in Schools and Colleges in India,' published by the Supreme Government, it is evident that, without religious teaching, the progress of the above-mentioned growing evil will not be restrained and checked.

Venturing to attempt to remedy this state of things, by imparting religious instruction to the present generation of young men, through an Urdu religious book entitled *Noorul Mominin*, the

undersigned has obtained the permission of the Educational Authorities to give religious training to the students of the Madrassh—both *Sunnis* and *Shias*,—after school hours. But before opening a *Religious Class*, for which the assistance and services of competent men, connected with the Madrassh (especially of Shamsul Ulama Moulvi Ahmed, the Head-Moulvi of the Arabic Department), have been secured, it is necessary for the undersigned to have in this connection the opinions and suggestions of the parents and guardians of intending pupils. Their kind support is therefore earnestly solicited. To meet the expenses of the class a small fee of two or four annas—according to the number of pupils—will be charged."

If for the small fee, the Moulvi can reform the boys, he will have done a service to his community. The attempt is laudable. There is a general complaint that Mahomedan, like Hindu, boys are growing more and more unmannerly and impatient of discipline. They have grown so wise that they call their fathers fools.

* * *

IN the village of Bankipore, in the Diamond Harbour sub-division of the 24-Perganas, an old man named Sham Nath Jogi has been killed by his son Sarodaprasad, a boy of sixteen years. On account of his vicious life, he was ordered out of the house. The son retaliated by driving the father out of the world. He struck him with a heavy club while smoking the *hookah*. The blow fractured the head and the old man died after removal to hospital.

* * *

NAWAB Vicar-ul Umra, the Prime Minister, and Colonel Mackenzie, Resident, Hyderabad, have arrived at Simla, to arrange for the visit of the Viceroy to the Nizam's dominions.

NOTES & LEADERETTES,

OUR OWN NEWS,

&

THE WEEK'S TELEGRAMS IN BRIEF, WITH OCCASIONAL COMMENTS.

THE Address in reply to the Queen's Speech was voted by the House of Commons on the 20th. The House has invalidated Daly's election for Limerick.

IN the House of Commons an amendment, brought forward by Mr. John Redmond, demanding a statement of the Irish policy of the Government, was rejected by 130 votes. A motion, by Mr. Balfour, giving the Government the whole time of the House for the rest of the Session, was adopted by a majority of 148 votes.

MR. CURZON, Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs, replying to Mr. Carson, said it would be impolitic to raise the question of an indemnity to families of British subjects murdered at Kucheng until the murderers had been punished, which was of primary importance. The Commission to enquire into the massacres has arrived there and several important arrests have been made. Reuter's correspondent at Hongkong telegraphs that the Prefect attached to the Commission and the Chinese officials at Kucheng refuse to permit the British and American Consuls to be present at the examination of the prisoners. The Consuls have protested, and the matter has been referred to the Viceroy. The *Times'* correspondent at Hongkong reports that the soldiers are plundering the people, and more incendiary placards have been posted in Canton. The latest news is that an armed mob has wrecked the Chapel and school house of the American Mission near Foochow. The populace are parading the streets with the cry "Drive out the foreign devils."

Mr. Curzon, in reply to another question, said that the Government was not informed of the terms of the Franco-Chinese Convention, which is still unratified: but Her Majesty's Government would take the necessary steps to prevent any disregard of Chinese engagements to Great Britain in reference to the territory affected by the Convention.

IN his maiden speech in the House of Commons, Mr. H. M. Stanley supported the Uganda railway scheme, saying it would be impossible for the British to evacute Egypt until the Soudan was restored to order, and that it would be necessary to extend the Uganda railway to Wady Halfa. Mr. Curzon, Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs, replying to several questions, said that, with the fullest reserve, the Government had addressed France regarding her movements on the Niger. He was ignorant of the despatch of any French expedition to Equatoria. With regard to Egypt he said the time had not yet arrived to reconsider the question of the evacuation of that country by the British, and the Government were not prepared to announce their policy in connection therewith. He then referred to the Buffer State question in Northern Siam, and said that the Government policy in Kincheng and the country beyond the Mekong would be the same as Lord Rosebery's. With reference to Siam, Mr. Curzon said that the object of Government would be to vindicate British interests and safeguard the integrity and autonomy of the Siamese Government, and see that China granted to Burma the same advantages as those accorded to Tonquin.

LORD Lansdowne, Secretary for War, stated in the House of Lords, on Augst 19, that Lord Wolseley would succeed the Duke of Cambridge as Commander-in-Chief on the 1st of November. The conditions of the appointment were being considered, the Government having reserved the liberty to make any necessary changes.

IT has transpired that when he was received at Windsor, the Shahzada communicated to the Queen a request that the Amir should be officially represented in London by a diplomatist, but an unfavourable reply was made The Prince leaves England next week, and will stay in Paris for a few days. He will embark on the Clive at Marseilles about the 9th of September

THE *Times* regards the statement made by Lord Salisbury in regard to Armenia as an emphatic warning to the Sultan that, unless reforms are introduced, it will be improbable that the Powers will continue to guarantee Turkish autonomy. But the Porte seems resolved and has again rejected the demand of the Powers.

A MEETING of members of the House of Commons who are favourable to currency reform was held, on August 16, under the presidency of Sir William Houldsworth, and a resolution passed forming a committee of the House of Commons to promote an international silver conference.

A SERIOUS boiler explosion at an hotel in Denver, Colorado, caused the collapse of the building, which catching fire was burned Fifty persons are reported to have perished

SEVENTEEN THOUSAND jute workers at Dundee have struck for higher wages and are idle

THE Channel steamer Stafford, when nearing Newhaven, foundered, after being in collision There were 300 passengers on board, all of whom were saved.

AN official despatch from General Dronsone, dated the 12th instant, just published, states that he has arrived on the heights near Antreba, on which the French forces are advancing. The French newspapers are very pessimistic regarding the campaign in Madagascar, and letters from their correspondents, dated the 22nd July, state that the mortality among the troops is deplorably large.

MUCH soreness is felt in Italy owing to the denunciation by France of the commercial treaty between Italy and Tunis, thereby destroying an important Italian trade

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A CONFERENCE of Lancashire millowners held in London has nominated a Committee to co-operate with the Parliamentary Committee against the cotton import duties in India.

THE Criminal Sessions of the High Court will commence on Monday next, Mr. Justice Sale presiding. The calendar is an extremely light one as regards the number of prisoners, but a heavy one indeed when we consider the character of the crimes charged to Annadaprasad Ghose who will be tried for murder and attempt at murder of his three sons and two brothers-in-law. After examining over two dozen witnesses, the Hon'ble Syed Ameer Hossein Khan Bahadoor committed the prisoner on Thursday. None of the witnesses was cross-examined, the prisoner reserving his defence for the High Court. Whatever the feeling against him in native society, he may be confident of a just and impartial trial

THE High Court rises for the Long Vacation on the 10th September. With the close of the court, Mr. Justice Sale ceases to be a Judge, for Mr. Justice Trevelyan for whom he has been acting is expected to join after the holidays.

ON a representation from a number of Fellows that none of the members of the Syndicate should be appointed Examiners, it recorded a resolution to that effect so far as it was practicable. After following the principle for a time, the loophole has been taken advantage of to further advance the power of the king of the University.

The President of the Faculty of Law nominates the law examiners. For the present year he selected Mr. Allan and Mr. Casperez for the Honours examination. Two examiners have hitherto been considered sufficient and for the last two years both of them have been Europeans. The king who was admitted to the Honours only the year before last was now anxious to have the upper hand in the examination as in all other matters. A plea was started that European examiners were not Hindu lawyers, and it has been decided to appoint a Bengali. And who more fitted than the freshest from the examination? To meet any possible objection on financial grounds, he is willing to do the work, unlike a lawyer, without any fees. We are not told whether the Syndicate has passed a resolution thanking the Babu for the generous self-sacrifice in the cause of the University.

WHILE the Freemasons of Bombay were making themselves ready to instal Lord Sandhurst as District Pro-Grand Master, another worthy member of the Craft, was preparing the field for its extension in Bengal. On Wednesday, Mr. Skrine, the Officiating Collector of Customs, read at the Hall of the Society for the Higher Training of Young Men, an interesting and entertaining lecture on Freemasonry. The chair was taken by Mr. Longley, an old member of the Brotherhood. He was modest enough not to trace the institution, like many of his brethren, to the father of mankind, but attributed to it many good things of this world. He made a distinction between a Mason and a good member of the Craft. Mr. Skrine was full of his subject. For the short time at his disposal, he could give only a rapid sketch of the rise and progress, the eclipse and regeneration of the Fraternity which has overspread Europe The eloquence of the address was a surprise to many. Mr Skrine's fame for ability, versatility and sympathy for the Indians had preceded him to Calcutta. On the present occasion, he surpassed himself and many of his compeers. There were passages in the address of an elevation of style and rhythm which we do not usually find in Anglo-Indian literature. The peroration was magnificent.

"In India, he said, prospects were most hopeful. He trusted that he would see the day when every town throughout the Empire would have its little body of idents, banded together in the bonds of brotherly love. These are times, he remarked, when all who have the welfare of this great country at heart should forget animosities and accidental difference of creed and colour, and march shoulder to shoulder in the van of progress. We are passing through a period of transition, when tact and sympathy alone can reconcile claims, apparently conflicting to social and political equality Freemasonry may be made a powerful factor in uniting forces which, rightly directed, would give healthy civic life to the dense masses of ignorance and prejudice that surround us. That it is destined to thrive and develop throughout the world at large is equally certain In the age of teeming populations, of a daily increasing struggle for existence, of the ruthless oppression of the weak by the strong, the Lodge is a haven of peace for the bewildered unit in this human hive. There, at least, the din of competition without sounds softly; there his eyes rest only on friendly faces: there he is conscious that all are animated by the maxim—'Every man for his brother and God for all!'"

Read slowly, the lecture would, perhaps, have been more impressive. Those who could not follow still enjoyed it, for it was an artistic piece of workmanship throughout. We give the two anecdotes related by the lecturer which heightened the interest of the audience. The first is well-known in Masonic circles. The young lady afterwards became Mrs. St. Leger, pronounced "Sulinger',' and her guardian was out here in India. There is no doubt about its authenticity. The other is a personal experience of the lecturer.

Speaking of the somewhat ungallant rule which excludes the fair sex from Masonic gatherings, Mr. Skrine narrated its history thus:—

"About the middle of the last century a young Irish nobleman, who was an enthusiastic Mason and Master of his Lodge, had a lovely maiden sister who was endowed with a full share of female inquisitiveness. She burned to know the nature of the secret rites periodically enacted in the family dining room where the Lodge was held. So an hour or two before the time fixed for an assemblage the girl ensconced herself in the case of a tall, old clock of the "grandfather" species, which stood in a corner of the room. In the cramped position she heard everything that passed at the initiation of a recruit, and would doubtless have escaped with her ill-gotten knowledge had not her brother remarked that the timepiece had stopped, the weights and pendulum having been deranged by the pressure of the delinquent's body He opened the case to set the clock going and stood aghast at the discovery Then, beside himself with fury, he drew his sword and would have taken his sister's life had he not been held back by the brethren. The fainting intruder was relegated to the doorkeeper's custody, while her fate was decided. Many were of opinion that death should be the penalty, but finally milder counsels prevailed; and it was resolved that, as the culprit had learnt so much, there was nothing for it but to complete the process of initiation. And so the young lady became a Mason, and used to walk in the first line in processions of the Craft"

Again, he says:—

"It is possible that Masons themselves are not aware how widely spread is some knowledge, garbled it may be, of the principles of their science. An incident in my own life occurs to me which appeared likely to open up a variety of curious problems. Many years ago, when Assistant Magistrate in a Transgangetic district, I received a report from the local police of the arrival of a gang of Nuths, or Gypsies. Wherever these social plagues had halted there arose a loud and bitter wail from the villagers of missing goats and pillaged gardens. I, therefore, obtained the District Magistrate's permission to prosecute them for bad livelihood In due course there appeared before me in the dock, *imprimis*, an old man the effect of whose patriarchal beard was marred by his shifty eyes, secondly, a pair of handsome impudent girls, and last, an indefinite number of children of every type, many of whom had been, I fear, stolen from their distracted parents. After a brief enquiry I discharged the women folk on their undertaking to quit the district within 24 hours, detained some of the little ones for further researches, and ordered the old leader of the gang to find security in Rs 200 to be of good behaviour for a year. I need hardly add that no bail was forthcoming. I was in the act of informing the fellow that he would have to go to jail for a twelvemonth, when, lo, he discovered himself to me as a Mason! I was struck 'all of a heap,' but duty had to be done and my 'brother in Craft' was hailed away to durance vile. I pondered long on the curious discovery I had made How could a common Gypsy have gained a knowledge of mysteries so closely guarded? To satisfy my curiosity I paid a visit to the jail and secured a private interview with the old Nuth. He was very sulky and not at all inclined to be communicative, but after a little pressing, he convinced me that he was a Mason; and what is more, that he held a higher grade in the hierarchy than I did. I then urged him to tell me how he had been initiated. He glanced at me with a peculiar twinkle in his beady eyes and said, 'Sahib, if I tell you all, will you let me out?' I was obliged to tell him that his release did not rest with me, but with the District Magistrate, who alone had the power to cancel an order of the kind. 'Then ask the *Bara Saheb*,' he said, 'surely he will listen to you and let me go.' I explained that that functionary was not a brother Mason and would not look at things in the same light as I did. 'Well,' he said, 'I will not tell you anything.' And so I went away discomfited: and being shortly afterwards transferred

to another district, lost a unique opportunity of discovering a wonderful secret."

THE criminal information in the Chief Magistrate's Court against Mr. Abul Hassan, the fifth Judge of the Court of Small Causes, for assault and battery was withdrawn. The complainant said that he had no case against the defendant and apologised for having rushed into Court for little or no cause. The matter then dropped.

WE see we have caused unnecessary pain to the relatives of Baboo Jogender Nath Mookerjee, Vakil, High Court, N.-W.-P., mistaking him for Rajendra Lal Mookerjee sentenced to imprisonment. We had erred in the company of the *Pioneer*, and take the earliest opportunity to make the correction. Rajendra has been let out on bail.

MR. H. C. Ker, otherwise Babu Hem Chunder Ker, is dead and no mistake. While still in the heyday of his service and glory, the newspapers had made him dead. But he survived that paper death long to the joy of his near and dear ones and friends. He had served Government for forty long years. Commencing as a Daroga he ended as a Sub Registrar. In the interim he was admitted to the Subordinate Executive Service and rose to be one of the two officiating native assistant Secretaries in the Bengal Office. He had the reputation of being an excellent officer, though blundering.

THE *Statesman* of the 21st August takes exception to some points in our article on the Pilgrim Ships Bill of the 3rd instant We are afraid, we have not been explicit enough. We do not think that it is a mischievous piece of legislation. We said—it is a measure in the right direction and we do not oppose the Bill for the object it has in view. The Government of India itself may not "be acquitted of culpable negligence in omitting to take proper steps to ascertain what was going on, and to place its views before the Conference." But that does not preclude any objection to the Bill when it is open to so many attacks. The remark of our contemporary that the Bill confers benefits on the poor pilgrims who will have to pay more dearly, is of the nature of the argument adopted by a Government official who wanted to acquire a piece of rented land on which Government had built without permission of the Zemindar. The owner was told that he was not entitled to any additional rent on account of the construction, because it had improved his land. We are sure a slight raising of the rates of fares for pilgrim ships will not be minded. The various restrictions and petty annoyances which can only be overcome by money, stand in the way of easy acceptance of the measure. Our contemporary will, we believe, understand us when we say that bad laws are not enforceable, and therefore defeat their own purpose. They are bad legislators who frame laws against the manners and customs of a people, whether religious or other. The diversion of the little money of the poor pilgrims to procure their convenience, can only tend to subject them to more privations which ultimately may prove their death to the annoyance of others. It is too fine to argue that they are not entitled to perform the *Hay*. We need not repeat that the Bill aims at nothing but good. The problem is difficult—how to meet all objections—to do good without inviting evil. Nor has the Government approached the subject in a proper way The Bill is a confession of weakness and helplessness. For the principal object in view, the Bill only empowers the Executive Government to legislate on the matter at its convenience and in the manner to be deemed desirable.

REIS & RAYYET.

Saturday, August 24, 1895.

THE SANITARY DRAINAGE BILL.

THE MACHINERY FOR COLLECTION.

WHEN the Road Cess Bill was under discussion in Council, the Zemindars had stoutly opposed the scheme of collecting the Cess through them. The argument that the imposition of the Cess involved a direct infringement of the Permanent Settlement of 1793 was scouted by the executive officials of the Government of India. Many lawyers, however, were found, both in India and England, who fully supported the contention of the Zemindars. The memorial the landholders of Bengal addressed to the Secretary of State was rejected. It was held that all that the Government of 1793 had done was only to fix for ever the public revenue. This, it was affirmed, did not preclude succeeding Governments from imposing such local taxes on the landholders as the circumstances of the country might at any time demand. Nothing could be further from Lord Cornwallis's intentions, while he made the assessment permanent, than to absolve the landholders for ever and aye from their liability as subjects to pay such taxes to the State as the State might on any subsequent occasion deem it expedient to demand from them. It was one thing to declare the land revenue permanent and quite another to affirm the absolute immunity of a particular class of subjects from future taxes of any kind. Terms more distinct than those employed in the Settlement Regulations were required before the privilege claimed by the Bengal landholders could be allowed. Besides the language of the Regulations, the Zemindars stood on their pattahs and their vernacular translates executed under official supervision. Those pattahs, with their counterparts, embodied their contracts with the State. All the duties they were required to do, from supplying rations for value to the troops passing through their estates to the reporting of crimes committed within them and the assistance they were to render to the Police in the execution of warrants or for the arrest of proclaimed offenders and suspicious characters, were laid down in them. Considering that all their profits were derivable from land, and that such profits represented the difference between the total yield and the demand of the State, any tax imposed on them would reduce their profits as effectually as an actual enhancement of the State demand. No tax, therefore, could be imposed on them as landholders which would have the effect of reducing their profits from land. If they traded or did any business, they would certainly be liable to pay such dues as the State might demand for general or particular purposes. The whole question was argued on either side with great ability. Unfortunately, the decision was pronounced not by independent judges but by one of the parties to the controversy. From the nature of things, the decision could not but be viewed as an act of power instead of being a judicial pronouncement. The Government treats the question as finally closed, while the landholders always press their contention whenever projects are launched forth for touching their pockets, and will do the same till the end of the chapter.

Finding that there was little probability of winning their case, the representatives of the Zemindars, when the Road Cess Bill was on the legislative anvil, directed their energies to oppose the machinery proposed for collection of the Cess. The Zemindars were sought to be made responsible for the collection under the penalties attached to failure in respect of the revenue. In other words, upon failure to collect a tax imposed on others as on themselves, they were to be deprived of what belonged to them and which they held under an altogether different tenure. Under all civilized Governments derogations are scarcely to be noticed from the principle of individual responsibility. The State levies an imposition on A and B. A discharges his obligation duly, B does not. That A after having discharged

his own should be held responsible for the discharge by B of the obligation imposed on B, involves an utter reversal of every enlightened principle of rule. In no other country would such legislation be possible. The selfishness involved in the scheme was audacious. It was not proposed to arm the Zemindars with any summary power of realization in cases of recusancy. They were to make good all deficits in the collection. The ordinary Civil Courts were pointed out to them, with their slow procedure, for pursuing all recusants.

No juridical argument could be urged for justifying such legislation. The sovereign authority can impose any obligation it likes on the subject so long as that obligation is one whose discharge would depend on the will of the individual burthened with it. The imposition of legislative obligations on any other principle would be absurd. The law might call on A to pay and enforce its call with a penal sanction. To require A, however, to see that B willingly obeys a call made on B and attach penal sanctions to the requisition, would be converting A from a free subject or citizen into something more than a servant of the State. The status would be an unnatural one. A State servant might lose his situation for inability to make others comply with the demand he has it in charge to enforce. But no Government ever thinks of realising from him sums he fails to collect. The tax-gatherer is, at least, free to resign his situation and, foregoing his wages, save what he has as his own. Not so the Zemindar. The proposal, therefore, to utilize the Zemindar's agency for the collection of dues imposed on others, involved an exercise of power that was entirely unwarranted. No precedent could be urged in favour of the plan, drawn from the example of enlightened legislature, ancient or modern. The fact is, the project implied a degree of legislative recklessness that was simply astounding.

The Zemindars have always been distinguished for loyalty. The object Lord Cornwallis had in fixing the land revenue for ever and making it independent of administrations with their incessant changes of personnel, was not simply to protect the rayyets from wilful exactions by giving a permanent interest to the proprietors, but to create a body of sturdy supporters of British rule in India. Lord Cornwallis had the fullest sanction of the Court of Directors as also of the Ministry of the day. There can be no doubt that he sacrificed a portion of the State dues, but, considering the circumstances under which that sacrifice was made, few could challenge its wisdom. The landholders of Bengal have not falsified the anticipations indulged in their creation. Their loyalty to British rule has never been questioned. From a company of merchants playing the sovereign under royal charters, British rule has developed into right imperial proportions. It may no longer need a landed aristocracy with interests thoroughly identified with its own. After, however, a hundred years of British rule, at a time of profound peace, the Mutiny burst forth with all its horrors. The whole of Gangetic India was ablaze. They, however, who had any stake in the country in the form of property, were found to range themselves on the side of order. Some of the large landholders gave substantial help to the Government. Smaller landed proprietors chose at least to stand neutral. Very few amongst the landed classes cast in their lot with the rebel cause. The policy, therefore, even at the very height of British power in the East, to burden the landholders with vexatious obligations for the sake of a small advantage to the State, can never be approved by those who wish for the permanence of British rule.

The Road Cess Act was passed. It was well understood, however, that the obligation thrust upon the Zemindars of collecting the dues of the State from the rayyets was thrust upon them with their consent. The Zemindari representatives in Council at least withdrew their opposition. Their Associations also accepted the scheme, without agitating for its reversal. The Road Cess Act, since then, has undergone some tinkerings. All these have been done for further safeguarding the interests of the State. The position of the Zemindars has not been at all improved. So far as the State is concerned, the collection of the Cess has been considerably facilitated. The Zemindars, however, continue to be sufferers. Many of them, unable to realise the Cess from recusant rayyets, particularly from holders of small rent-free lands, are patiently suffering losses year after year, without being able to recoup them by costly appeals to the Civil Courts.

It is scarcely necessary, after this, to comment on the equity of burthening the Zemindars with the obligation of collecting the Drainage Cess. However advantageous the ready agency of the Zemindar may be to the State, the scheme is utterly indefensible from every point of view. Not even was the shadow of an argument attempted in the Council for justifying it. From the Lieutenant-Governor downwards, all the Honourable Councillors expatiated on only the simplicity of the machinery, with copious thanks to the official who had first suggested its adoption.

PANDIT VIDYASAGARA.*

This book is a brother's tribute to departed worth. The story of Pandit Vidyasagrr's life has been told from beginning to end with all its details. The narrators are his younger brothers, for though written by the third brother, Pandit Sambhu Chandra Vidyaratna, the next, Ishan Chandra Banerjee, has revised the narrative carefully. The style is simple and pure with many unlaboured graces. No part of the narrative seems to flag or halt. The eloquence of the writer flows on smoothly, without any symptom of that disease of the understanding called *Furor Biographicus* from which a loving and obedient brother could hardly be expected to be free while speaking of a brother whose eminence was unquestioned and whose virtues were universally allowed

The book reminds one of the observations of Macaulay on Boswell. Macaulay, in speaking of "Bozzy," has made a distinction between the author and his work. While praising the work, the critic has depreciated the author by attributing to him, on the best evidence possible, *viz.*, his own admissions, every kind of vice that can stain a gentleman. The general inferiority of Boswell's intellect also has been the critic's theme. He has endeavoured to prove it by various references to the work. The absence of a single remark, of any originality, among the numerous observations of Boswell on men and things, seems to lend colour to the critic's contention. After all, however, Macaulay's estimate of Boswell is, to a great extent, absurd. It is impossible to believe that Boswell, who is universally regarded as the prince of literary biographers, had no art ; that, in fact, he blundered into success and produced one of the best books in the

* *Vidyasagar-Jivancharita* by his brother Sambhu Chandra Vidyaratna and corrected by Ishan Chandra Bandyapadhya. Calcutta.

English language in the department of biography, with the aid of only a strong memory and careful observation of what passed around him. Whatever the soundness of Macaulay's theory, there can be no donbt, however, that the critic's observations about the simplicity and candour of Boswell are singularly correct. "Those weaknesses which most men keep covered up in the most secret places of the mind, not to be disclosed to the eye of friendship or of love, were precisely the weaknesses which Boswell paraded before all the world. He was perfectly frank, because the weakness of his understanding and the tumult of his spirits prevented him from knowing when he made himself ridiculous. His book resembles nothing so much as the conversation of the inmates of the Palace of Truth."

Without any of the vices imputed to Boswell, of either character or the understanding, Pandit Vidyaratna has displayed in his book a simplicity and candour that is eminently Boswellian. Many parts of Vidyaratna's narrative read like the conversation of the inmates of the Palace of Truth. Nothing has been attempted to be hidden from the reader. The heart-rending poverty of the family when Vidyasagar was born, the hard labour which his father had to undergo for making the two ends meet, the various toilsome domestic offices which the ladies of the house had to discharge but which in even middle class families are entrusted to menials of both sexes, the refusal of a Brahman in tolerable circumstances to marry his daughter to Vidyasagar's father, Thakurdas, on account of the latter's poverty, the acts of naughtiness in which Vidyasagar indulged from exuberance of boyish spirits, the exultation of the family when intelligence was received of Thakurdas's having obtained an employment, with free quarters and board, at Calcutta, on a monthly pay of Rs. 2, which in those days of cheap living, when rice sold for 2 maunds a rupee, would be regarded with as much complacency as an appointment now of Rs. 15 per month, the labour that young Iswar Chandra cheerfully took upon himself, when he came to Calcutta for prosecuting his studies in the Sanskrit College, of cooking the daily food of his father, himself, and his brothers, his utter indifference to what are called the comforts of life, the spirit of endurance he showed amid privations the like of which it has been the lot of few to endure that belong to families of respectable blood, and hundreds of other circumstances, of a similar kind, have all been detailed with an artlessness that is almost amazing and that enhances the reader's esteem for the narrator, considering that the latter, as a brother of the whole blood, is as much exposed as his subject to the gibes of thoughtless vanity in thus drawing aside the veil. Many transactions, again, in which others were actors, have been described with a simplicity that is utterly inconsistent with that conventional respect for eminence which characterises even the least worldly of men and that reserve which bespeaks ordinary prudence. Vidyasagar's biography, is, in some respects, a curiosity in literature. It is a round, unvarnished account of the man and his surroundings as his biographer knew them.

Vidyasagar's ancestors were, many of them, men of learning. His grandfather was a remarkable character. He had abandoned home and friends for becoming a religious wanderer. A dream forced him back to his native village. He had dabbled in astrology. When Vidyasagar was born, he predicted that the child, in all his life, would display a bull-like doggedness of resolution in every thing to which he would set his hand. Irresolution would never be one of his weaknesses. Believers in astrology would find a confirmation of their faith in Vidyasagar's life-story, for the prediction of the grand-father was abundantly verified in all the acts of the grandson. Vidyasagar received the rudiments of his education in the Pathasala of his native village. There he picked up his knowledge of Bengali and such proficiency with figures as might qualify him for a merchant's accountant or a Zemindar's gomasta. The extraordinary intelligence of the boy and the father's connection with a small trading firm at Calcutta where he was an accountant, led to the boy's removal to the metropolis. In those days there were many scholarships in the Sanskrit College and Brahman boys were admitted either free or on nominal fees. Within six months of joining the College, Iswar Chandra got a scholarship of Rs. 5 per month. His scholarships enabled him not only to meet the costs of his own education but afford some help to his father. At College Iswar Chandra distinguished himself by his intelligence and thorough devotion to his studies. His was a brilliant record of success in every examination. Having joined the College on the 1st of June 1829 he left it in 1841, after a study there of 12 years and 5 months. His final certificate, under the signature of Babu Rasamaya Dutt, the then Secretary, bears date the 10th December 1841, and the subjects in which he had acquired proficiency were Grammar, Poetry, Rhetoric, Vedanta, Nyaya, Astronomy, and the Dharma Sastras, *i.e.*, Hindu law, both ceremonial and relating to inheritance.

We must refer the reader for the details of Vidyasagar's life to the book itself. We have no mind to injure the author by summarising the story. Nor can any summary, however carefully made, afford the degree of pleasure that one is sure to derive from a perusal of Vidyaratna's pages. A review, again, of such compass as ours, is scarcely the place where Pandit Vidyasagar's services to the cause of Bengali literature, or of the remarriage of Hindu widows, or of the abolition of polygamy, can be discussed in detail. We can but briefly advert to them.

Those who think that there was no Bengali prose before the time of Rammohun Roy are certainly in error. No book might have existed, although that is very doubtful, written in Bangali prose, but then the people conducted their epistolary correspondence in Bengali prose. All legal documents, again, of transfers of property, by gift or sale, were in Bengali prose. The people talked prose, and there is no reason to suppose that our ancestors, two generations back, talked a language different from ours. From very old times, the curriculum of the village Pathasalas of Bengal embraced Bengali composition as required for purposes of epistolary correspondence, legal documents, and orders by Zemindars to their village agents or gomashtas. Rammohun Roy, therefore, did not invent Bengali prose. His celebrated essay in which he laid down the rules which should be observed in

The Indian Association for the Cultivation of Science.

210, Bow-Bazar Street, Calcutta

(Session 1895-96.)

Lecture by Babu Ram Chandra Datta, F.C.S., on Monday, the 26th Inst., at 4 15 P.M., *Subject*: Arsenicum.

Lecture by Dr. Nilratan Sirkar, M.A., M.D., on Monday, the 26th Inst., at 6 to 8 P.M. *Subjects*: Practical Zoology—The Pigeon: Zoology—The Hydrozoa.

Lecture by Dr. D. N. Chatterjee, B.A., M.B., C.M., on Tuesday, the 27th Inst., at 6 to 8 P.M. *Subject*: Histology—Connective Tissue: Physiology—Respiration.

Lecture by Babu Ram Chandra Dutta, F.C.S., on Wednesday, the 8th inst., at 4-15 P.M. *Subject*: Gold, Platinum and Aluminum.

Lecture by Babu Rajendra Nath Chatterjee, M.A., on Wednesday, the 28th Inst., at 7-30 P.M. *Subject*. Boyle's law; its application and Pumps.

Lecture by Dr. Mahendra Lal Sircar, on Thursday, the 29th Inst., at 7 30 P.M., *Subject*. Magnetic Induction; Laws of Magnetic Force.

Lecture by Babu Ram Chandra Datta, F.C.S., on Friday, the 30th Inst., at 4-15 P. M. *Subject*: Chromium and Iron.

Lecture by Dr. Nilratan Sarkar, M.A., M.D., on Friday, the 30th Inst., at 6 to 7 P.M. *Subject*: Chemical Physiology—Carbo-Hydrates.

Admission Fee, Rs. 4 for Physics, and Rs. 4 for Chemistry; Rs. 6 for both Physics and Chemistry; Rs. 4 for Physiology; Rs. 4 for General Biology; Rs. 6 for complete course of Physiology and Biology. The charge for a single lecture is 4 Annas.

MAHENDRA LAL SIRCAR, M.D.,
Honorary Secretary.

August 24, 1895.

construing Bengali prose, was necessary for the kind of prose he wrote. It was compounded of Bengali and Sanskrit, with the Sanskrit idiom predominating. If he had written as he used to speak or as others spoke, there would have been no necessity for the rules of construction he framed for comprehension of his writings. With Rammohun Roy, therefore, what began was really that sort of prose which we have discarded or are endeavouring to discard. The religious movement which was headed by Rammohun Roy collected a band of scholars around him who did much for creating the sort of Sanskritised Bengali prose, which, it was thought, was the only language consistent with the dignity of writing. The opposition which the Brahmo movement provoked employed writing for the dissemination of its views and, therefore, Bengali prose was as much indebted to it as to Rammohun Roy and his immediate followers. The early writers of the *Tattwabodhini Patrika*, the *Pashanda Pidana*, and the *Pattyapradana*, did much for Bengali prose. They were the real teachers of Vidyasagar whose early style was not the Bengali of Bankim but a Sanskritised Bengali more polished than that of the Rammohun Roy period. Vidyasagar was the father of that Bengali which lives in the pages of his *Vetala panchamvingsati*, and *Sitar-banabasa*, and *Sakuntalab*. Its genus was the same as that of the Bengali of the period immediately before him. Vidyasagar lived to discard that Bengali for the prose of his polygamy pamphlets which is all that one can desire from a purist's point of view. That prose is graver than the prose which is spoken by a man of culture, but its nature is not essentially different. Vidyasagar lived to forget his own earlier Bengali and write the Bengali of at least Vidyabhusan in his *Somaprakasa*.

The movement about the re-marriage of Hindu widows has been a failure. Vidyasagar lived to see that failure. We can never forget the shock he gave to society in Bengal by his first book in support of the legality of re-marriage. He was answered by a host of Pandits, but there can be no doubt that he had the best of the argument on his side. The whole question, however, we think, was argued on wrong principles. It mattered little which among the host of Hindu sages whose works have come down to us had raised his voice for the re-marriage of Hindu widows. Such re-marriage had fallen into disuse for several centuries. The later Pandits of Bengal who, so far as Hindu law, both ceremonial and that relating to inheritance, is concerned, are as much revered as Parasara or Narada, do not admit the legality of such marriages. Indeed, such marriages had ceased for centuries before their time. The task, therefore, that Vidyasagar proposed to himself, *viz.*, to prove the legality of such marriages from the ancient Dharma Shastras, could be productive of no practical results. It was at best a feat of intellectual gymnastics. The theory that the Rishis never contradict one another, and that their declarations bind the modern Hindus in all concerns of life, is only a fiction. As might have been expected, notwithstanding the large sums of money spent on it, the movement has proved a downright failure. Very few marriages have taken place. Hindu society has not recognised them. Indeed, it has excasted them that have followed Vidyasagar.

The Pandit's attack on Polygamy was, we believe, utterly uncalled for. With the spread of English education and the difficulty of earning a livelihood, polygamy had been nearly dead when Vidyasagar armed himself against it. That was a downright waste of energy. Not one polygamous marriage has been prevented for Vidyasagar's action on the occasion. Then, again, under the numerous limitations the Rishis have allowed, their declaration against polygamy, supposing Vidyasagar's interpretation to have been correct, could not be productive of any practical results. The Hindu Shastras allow a man to take a second wife if the first wife utters a single word that is disagreeable to the husband. Matrimonial quarrels, we suppose, are as old as the date of expulsion from Eden when Eve blamed Adam for having been weak enough to listen to her arguments or solicitations. If the Hindu Dharma Shastras are followed, the least difficulty will not be encountered by a man of marrying propensities in taking as many wives as he likes. The widest door is opened to polygamy by the verse beginning with *Sadyastvapriyavadini*. Some of the other limitations, again, are as ridiculous and absurd. A wife that brings forth only daughters may be superseded. A wife that is ill, continuously for some time, may similarly be discarded. If the Shastric declaration against polygamy was to be revived, it could not be revived without those limitations. Seriously speaking, such revival, were it possible, would only have injured Hindu society without doing it any good This view was enforced by Bunkim Chandra Chatterjee in his celebrated article in *Bangadarsana* in reply to the polygamy pamphlet No. II of Pandit Vidyasagar. In closeness of reasoning and polished banter, Chatterjee's reply came up to the standard of any of those inimitable productions with which Sydney Smith graced the *Edinburgh Review* in its proud st days.

Chandi Charan Banerjee has given the world a new life of Vidyasagar. The narrative portions are mainly based on Pandit Vidyaratna's book. Several material errors, again, disfigure the new volume. Many of these have been corrected by Vidyaratna in a second publication called *Bhroma-nirasha* which forms, as it were, the supplement of his first book. Considering the satisfactory character of Vidyaratna's book, there was scarcely any need of Chandi Charan's publication, especially when he had very little to add to the purely narrative portion of his subject's life. Chandi Charan was never familiar with Vidyasagar. His big volume contains many elaborated discussions of topics that are only collaterally connected with his subject's biography. Without treading so closely on Vidyaratna's heels, he might have employed himself usefully by throwing these discussions together, referring his readers for personal particulars to the earlier and more authoritative work.

TRIUMPH OF VASUDEVA.

A Review of Pandit Ram Nath Tarkaratna's* "Vásudeva Vijayam" in the *Revue Critique*, 13th May 1895. By M. A. Barth.

Translated especially for *Reis and Rayyet*.

The correct way to present to the reader the poem of Pandit Ramnath Tarkaratna will be to give an analysis of it.

I. Vásudeva-Krishna reigns over the Yadavas (1-19) at Dvaravati (20-58), surrounded by his queens, among whom shines Rukmini and the new favourite, Satyabhama (59-62). To see the latter, Narada descends from heaven (63-68). He is received by Krishna and Rukmini (69-87).

II. Praise of Krishna by Narada, who presents to Krishna a Parijat flower, from the wonderful tree in the garden of Indra, who keeps it with jealous care, when, justly, the tree ought to belong to Krishna (1-35). Krishna accepts the flower and makes it over to Rukmini, but he declines to reclaim the tree (36-42). Narada, annoyed, goes away, but before going to Siva, he proceeds to find Kalavati, the nurse of Satyabhama (43-47). Kalavati, faithful to the instructions received by her, gives a false account of the incident to Satyabhama: it was to her that the flower had been intended to be given by Narada but that Krishna had forcibly taken it away in order to present it to Rukmini (48-73).

III. Lamentations of Satyabhama; she wishes to die (1 20); Kalavati tries to console her, and promises that she shall have her revenge (21-41). Despondency of Satyabhama, which her companions endeavour in vain to relieve (42 68).

IV. On being informed of all this, Krishna goes to her. The perfume of the Parijat flower, with which he has been impregnated, revives her (1-30). Krishna tenderly questions her as to the cause of her distress. Satyabhama conceals it, but one of her friends reveals it (31-35). Krishna promises to bring the Parijat flower to her (56-63). Night descends upon the reconciled pair (64-73).

V. Morning hymn of the Vaitaliks: awakening of Krishna, and Satyabhama's toilet. Morning exercises and charities of Krishna (1-25). Council of ministers. Krishna consults them how to obtain the Parijat (26-34). Gada, his younger brother, does not see any other way but one, war, which will be mere play (35-36).

* The first edition, the date of which I do not know, contained only 16 cantos.

The son of Satyaka is for the employment of diplomicy *(niti)*, and amicable means (57-81). Krishna agrees with him. He would send an ambassador (82-83).

VI. Krishna invokes Narada, who immediately makes his appearance with his usual companion, Parvata (1-9). Krishna charges him to carry his message to Indra; at first to ask amicably for the Parijat; in case of refusal, to reply by a declaration of war. (10-47). Narada, who is sure of a quarrel, accepts the mission, but he foresees a refusal, and advises Krishna to prepare his army (48-55). Departure of Narada and Parvata; their journey to the Himalaya (56-68).

VII. Description of the Himalaya (1-57). After having crossed it, the messengers arrive at Amaravati, the capital of Indra (52 63). Narada delivers his message, but immediately follows up the demand with a threat (64-76). Anger and refusal of Indra. Narada, all joyous, returns and makes his report to Krishna (77 89).

VIII. Krishna assembles his army, and gets on his chariot of war with Satyabhama, (1-19). March of the army, to which Arjuna and many other kings join themselves (20 63).

IX. The army beholds Mount Meru (1-21), traverses the sources of Ganga (22-43) and encamps on Mount Meru (44-58). Setting of the sun and rising of the moon (58-78).

X. Sun-rise on Kailasa (1-15). Awakening of Devi; Kumara comes to salute his mother (16-24.) Devi informs him of the plans and of the near approach of Krishna. She had caused Lakhsmi, the goddess of Fortune to come to her from Indra's heaven, by a message sent through her follower Vijayá. Lakshimi told Devi of the persecutions she had suffered at the hands of Indra for her attachment to Vishnu. Devi herself has a wish to revenge herself for the previous contemptuous treatment of her by Indra, as Indra had refused the Parijat to her likewise, and she would like to see him humiliated. With this object she sends to him her son Kumara (25-55). Kumara disguised under the form of Vishakha and giving himself out as a messenger of Krishna, demands the Parijat in arrogant words,—which makes a struggle inevitable (56 80). Anger and refusal of Indra; Kumara threatens Indra and retires (81-116).

XI. Krishna beholds Meru (1 11) Arjuna describes it to him (12 68).

XII. Indra consults his guru Brihaspati, who blames his pride and advises him to give up the tree (1-17). Anger and refusal of Indra (18-35). Jayanta, the son of Indra, drops in and promises victory (36-46). Indra defies Kumara, the god of War, and the General of his armies. On the advice of Brihaspati he consecrates Jayanta as the Generalissimo of the Devas (47 62). Sachi, the consort Indra, sees the ceremony and the spectacle from the top of her palace; her companions, the goddesses, inform her of what is going on, and are alarmed at sinister presages (63-77). Sachi tranquillizes them. Is not Indra invincible? She goes down, embraces her son, encourages him and Indra, and declares her intention to combat by their side. Indra conjures her to renounce her intention. She obeys, and proceeds, beyond the region of the stars, to Brahman (76-116). Description and march of the army of the Devas towards Meru. Night comes on (117-148).

XIII. Informed by Garuda of the approach of the enemy, Krishna gives the alarm to the army of the Yadavas (1-12.) Indra harangues the Devas: he has done all in his power to prevent a conflict; today also he had declared to Garuda that he was quite willing to give up the Parijat, but that Krishna must consent to ask it from him with the humility which becomes a younger brother. At present there is no alternative but to fight for the good cause. He despatches Vayu, the god of Wind, as his scout (13-78).

XIV. The battle commences (1-24). The exploits of Agni, of Yama, of Varuna, of Vayu, of Kubera, of Jayanta, of Balarama, of Arjuna, of Gada, of Satyaki, of Pradyumna (25-40). Jayanta triumphs over Pradyumna, but the army of the Devas begins to give way (41-67).

XV. Indra hastens to help. Krishna and Balarama rush to meet him (1 24). Indra flings back Balarama; but powerless against Krishna, he prepares to hurl his *vajra*, thunder; Krishna, on his part, gets ready to unloose his disc, the *Chakra*, when Brahman intervenes (25-52) Brahman's hymn to Krishna-Vishnu,, the Supreme Being: May Krishna pardon! and Krishna pardons and lowers the Chakra (53-63).

XVI. After renewed exchange of compliments and peaceful words, Brahman disappears. Krishna offers unconditional peace (1-16). Brihaspati accepts it in the name of Indra, and invites Krishna and the Yadavas to Amaravati to ratify it. Krishna accepts the invitation (17-33). Jayanta remains implacable. But Indra who had remained silent, feels his pride gradually going down. At last he gives himself up to the joy of reconciliation: he re-animates the dead, and after having ordered Viswakarman, the architect of the gods to make in his capital every preparation for the reception, he mounts his chariot and proceeds there himself, with Krishna, Satyabhama, and the armies of the Devas and Yadavas (34 41). Reception at Amaravati (42-73).

XVII. The next day, Krishna and Satyabhama, Indra and Sachi, the Yadavas and Devas, with Viswakarman as their guide, go out to admire the grand exhibition (Pradarçani) of all the wonders of art and industry which Indra had, by his architect, organised in honour of his guests (1-108).

XVIII. After having enjoyed for many days the splendid hospitality of the king of heaven, the Yadavas take their leave. Each of the gods gives them the most precious article he has. Indra himself gives the Parijata, about which nothing had been mentioned by him since the reconciliation. Krishna and Satyabhama mount the celestial chariot of Indra, which was driven by Matali (1-27). Return from the skies to Dvaravati. Krishna points out to Satyabhama the different regions of the Earth over which they pass in their aerial journey (28 100). Triumphal reception, and the planting of the Parijat in Dvaravati (101-113). Signature of the poet*. (114 118).

The above analysis is only a summary. I believe, however, that it faithfully reproduces not only the frame-work of the poem, but also all the springs and essential motives of action, so that it will be easy for the reader, should he wish to refer to other works where the same episode is treated†, to determine whether the subject in its entirety has lost or gained under the hand of Pandit Rimnath Tarkaratna. But I ought, at the same time, to add that such comparison will hardly be equitable. The entire design, the plan, even the subject, are of the least importance here. By themselves they are of small import; they are simple themes, they are opportunities more or less favourable. The value lies in the elaboration of the details. And this the Pandit has done with extreme care and brillancy. He has shown real qualities of observation and inventive faculty in the additions made, of an intelligence which is at once supple and keen, skilful in allusions and in catching the subtle harmony of things; of an imagination frequently accurate and always ingenious to cause a metaphor to flash out, to dress and colour the comparisons, to be lavish as regards the *alankaras*, those ornaments which, according to Hindu doctrine, are the very soul of poesy. He likewise knows well to clothe the whole with the rich and flowery diction of the Mahakavya, the resources for which he possesses in a high degree, and to put into masterly metrical forms‡ Indian criticism, therefore, has given the most flattering reception to his "Triumph of Vásudeva." It has not considered the work unworthy of being placed side by side with the best works of the classical period; he has even been, in this connection, styled Kalidasa. This was probably the name or the surname of the father of the Pandit. He has himself placed his work under the auspices of a stanza of the "Malavikagnimtra," and the return from the skies to Dvaravati, in the 18th canto, is an amplification of a well-known scene in Sakuntala§. I doubt, however, of his having specially received his inspiration from Kalidasa. Anyhow, he would have remained far behind his model in relative sobriety and in delicacy of taste. His diction, strained to exaggeration, surcharged and with long compounds, is full of assonance, alliterations, and play upon words, which, in spite of his cleverness, are made at the expense of the language, which, though remaining materially correct, loses its idiomatic vigour||. If there has been any imitation of the works

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* The author informs us that he was born in Santipur (district Nadia, Bengal) of a respectable Brâhman family, *gotra* Bharadwaja. His father, Kalidasa Kavi, (or is the name nothing but a metaphor?) —a poet like himself, was equally versed in the Smriti, in the doctrine of the Tantras, in the Nyaya, in the Mimansa and in the Sankhya, and had merited the surname of Vidyabagiça. He himself had likewise composed his poem in the year 1825 Saka. 1882 A. D, and in it pays his homage to a patron or a master by the name of Sib Chandra.

† For instance, Harivansa, 122-133; Vishnu Purana, V. 30, 31, to speak only of such as are accessible in translation.

‡ There are not less than 19 kinds of metres used in this poem.

§ Other pieces, where one can see an imitation of Kalidasa, are less characteristic, for instance, certain descriptions. These have their place marked out beforehand in every Mahakavya.

|| The author seems to think that every expression, (derivative, and, above all, compound) which is grammatically allowable, is, for this reason, justifiable. Has he good authority for using only *Nandana* in the sense of "son" (XII. 53), or for *Subhaga*, *Subha* (II. 44)? *Giri* and *adri* are synonyms of *Parvata*; are they still synonymes when Parvata is a proper name (VII. 39, 53, 64)? I note down here a few errors not included in the errata. 1, 9*a*, omit the *Visarga*; 19*d*, read *Vindram*; V. 73*c*, *bilinta*—; what is the use of *sâjvasasyayâ*, VI. 33*d*? ; VIII, 19, read *navâbhra* and *uparyupari*; XII. 96, *machash*; 13. 29*d*, *mitantrya*. The feeble cœsuras are too frequent, for example, VII. 72*a*; XVIII, 24*a*; 33*c*, 54*c*.

of Kalidasa, it has been chiefly of the Nalodaya. But he has done it with incontestible dilettantism. India, however, easily pardons this. She has for a long time been in the habit of confounding together the pleasure of perusal of the works of the poets and of guessing enigmas!

Per contra, to the European reader these are grave defects. Whatever he may do, how willingly soever he may endeavour to place himself in a Hindu point of view, he will be sure to feel painfully the artificial and unpleasantly impersonal nature of poetry. He may, perhaps, think that all modern Mahakavyas must, of necessity, be imitation, and that a large number of old models are the same. These latter, however, he will agree to read, because they are ancient documents, but he will with difficulty resign himself to knock his head against imitations where this quality is wanting. These fatal conditions do not depend so much on the law of style, which is not so terse as to lose its elasticity, nor so vigorous as the preceding, which a daring spirit can pass over, as on the language itself, which ties down thoughts to used forms and imposes a common bond. Nowhere is the workman subjected by the instrument with which he works to such a heavy bondage, for the instrument here is a dead language, which, in the state in which it has to be used, has never been a living one. The unlimited richness of its vocabulary and the poverty of its syntax reduce poetical work to the construction of epithets; the propositions, in their turn, juxtapose themselves without being subject to each other; in lieu of periods we have stanzas independent one of another. The result is a kind of patch-work, in which everything is on the same plan and of the same value,—a discourse not woven together and without any perspective. No doubt, the language is excellent when sentences have to be brought out, and when images and comparisons have to be fashioned, and, in this respect, there are in the poem of Pandit Tarkaratna a whole assortment of delicately-worked gems. It also lends itself admirably to descriptions so long as the object is simple or when the synthesis can be made easily; the picture, for instance, of the approach of night, at the end of the 4th canto, is very beautiful. But it fails whenever the object is complex (thus the description of the Himalaya is a complete failure, and it could not but be so), and it becomes wholly powerless in a narration. The equivocal character of Narada cannot be grasped unless one has come across him elsewhere,—we cannot gather it from the text; and it is not less difficult to find in the 10th canto the motives of action of Devi and Kumara.* Anyhow, the solution of this enigmatical narrative appears to be placed, and, as it were smothered in the folds of some long epither, where there is every chance of not discovering it in the midst of this confusion which is nothining but a sea of epithets.

The Pandits who, from time immemorial, are addicted to the use of high rhetoric are not mere dillettantes. They always have, as a professional occupation (one or more of the Shasttas) certain rules of which the Sanskrit language is the organ. As, of old, amongst us, all literary men, whatever might be their specialities, deemed it an honour to make their essay in Latin verses, so it is—that to confirm their reputation for learning, they (the Pandits) compose poems which are, in reality, as much works of science as of imagination. The Pandit Tarkaratna is no exception to this rule. Santipur, his native village, is one of the centres of Vishnuism and Brahmanical culture in Bengal, and we have seen above that the study of many Shastras was hereditary in his family. He himself is now editing, in the *Bibliotheca Indica*, the *Sri Bhashya*—the commentary of Ramanuja of the Vedanta Sutras, —and he is the author of two original works on these very Sutras. As a jurist, versed in the Smriti, he took a prominent part in the controversy occasioned by the Age of Consent Bill, the recent Act by which the Anglo-Indian Govetnment tried to remedy the most crying evil of early marriage; and by his intervention in favour of the Bill exposed himself to the malice of orthodox fanaticism. Lastly, for many years, he did the major portion of the work of numbering and classifying the Sanskrit manuscripts of Bengal, conducted by the late Rajendralala Mitra, and it is, in a great measure, owing to his long and laborious researches that the volumes of the *Notices*, published under the the auspices of the Asiatic Society of Calcutta have become the most useful, one may say the only useful work of its kind executed in India by natives of the country. It is not necessary for me to dwell here on the disgrace which he has since suffered at the hands of this very Society, nor the controversies which this disgrace has given rise to. My sole object in describing this multifarious activity has been to show that the Pandit has not departed from the traditions of his fathers. "He has not blackened before them the face of Saraswati,", and he has remained faithful also to this tradition in composing his "Triumph of Vásudeva." In this last act of fidelity he has a double merit. In former times the profession of the poet not only brought him honour but gold also. The Rijas had open hands to pay for a dedication. Now-a-days, those that have retained a shadow of power, have their Budget supervised by a British Resident; those that have sunk into private life, employ, no doubt, their funds in a more useful way, although it may be only as shareholders. There is no dedication at the commencement of the "Triumph of Vásudeava." The profession does not any longer pay, notwithstanding the renewed favour now being enjoyed by Sanskrit studies in India. These studies are now pursued on other lines, and it is easy to foresee that authors of Mahakavyas will be rare in the future. All the more reason why they should make haste, who are curious to see how literary forms survive, and how some new elements may permeate the most petrified of these forms.*

A. Barth.

* Though the author uses here the most free metre of the sloka.

STARVED INTO MUTINY.

A famous mutiny on shipboard came to pass in this way: When the ship, which had sailed from London, was well down the Channel, it was found that the provisions intended for the use of the crew were rotten and, of course, uneatable. The men complained to the captain, who promised to put into into some near port and exchange the bad stores for good. He failed to keep his word, and as the poor sailors couldn't sail the ship 10,000 miles on empty stomachs, they killed the captain and mate, helped themselves to the cabin provisions, held high jinks for a few weeks, and finally scuttled the ship, put off in the boats, and were all lost but three. The captain could have prevented all this if he had chosen to; but perhaps the owners and he had put up the bad job on the men. Very likely, and got served out for it. They were both criminals and fools.

But there are ships that must needs sail to the end of the voyage with only the original stores. Come what may, they can't go back or put into any port. Some are well found and others badly; and so voyages differ.

To modify the illustration, the latter kind of vessels are human beings. At birth we sail on a voyage, which by rights ought to be *seventy years* long. But how many of us continue on the Sea of Life that long? Very few comparatively. Most of us go down sooner. Why? Because we recklessly, carelessly, or ignorantly waste the stock of *vital force* with which Nature endows us at the start. There are no meat shops or bakeries on the Atlantic, nor are there any places after birth where we can beg or buy more "*life*." This is perfectly plain to me. Is it plain to you? I am afraid it isn't. Let's see whether a little incident will throw light on it.

Mr. Henry Fish had been a fortunate man. His forbears had done well by him. Up to the Autumn of 1890 he could say, "I have always been strong and healthy." For thirty years he had worked as a painter for one employer. He must have been not only a healthy man, but a good painter. So far his "vitality," his *constitution*, had been equal to all demands on it. It had endured a lot of hard work, resisted the weather, and digested his food. Then it refused to go on. It struck work. It wouldn't make sail or pull an oar. In plain English the symptoms or signs of the trouble were these: Loss of appetite, bad taste in the mouth, terrible pains after eating, yellow eyes and skin, and rheumatic gout in the feet. His legs and stomach became fearfully swollen, and his heart palpitated and thumped frightfully nearly all the time. On account of the distress given him by solid food he could only eat slops, and not much strength can he get out of them.

By-and-by the best he could do was to hobble about on crutches. He could not lie abed at all, because he couldn't draw his breath when lying down. For over a month he snatched what sleep he could when supported upright on his crutches. Just think of that, and be thankful it wasn't your case. He wasn't able to lift his hand to his mouth, and had to be nursed night and day. He got so low (in spite of doctors attending him) that he didn't expect to live, and didn't desire to. One doctor said he had heart disease, and that his heart was big as a bullock's which was nonsense. During all this illness Mr. Fish had a professional nurse from a convalescent home. When he had sunk so low as to make it a wonder how he kept alive at all, he first heard of the medicine which finally cured him. In concluding his letter he says, "After beginning to take Mother Seigel's Curative Syrup I never looked behind me. I got stronger every day, and have ailed nothing since. This medicine saved my life, and I want the public to know it. (Signed) Henry Fish, Great Malvern, County of Worcester, January 12th, 1893."

Only a word more. We spoke of men and women being like ships that have to sail to the end of the voyage with what supplies they start with. By that we mean, not supplies of food, *but supply of power to digest food*. You see the difference? Bread and meat are no better than lead and leather if you can't digest them. In Mr. Fish's case it was not food that failed, but *power to use it*. He had indigestion and dyspepsia. The wonderful remedy discovered by Mother Seigel stopped the waste of vitality caused by the disease, and enabled Nature to use food to build up the perishing body. He will now proceed, we hope, towards the port of Old Age, with favouring winds.

Yet, save for timely rescue, he would doubtless have gone down, as millions do, leaving but a momentary eddy over the spot where they disappear.

* There are specimens of this kind,—a very small number in Vásudeva Vijayam; but the permeation is in so strong a dose, that it looks incongruous; for example, the sort of hymn to liberty, to independence, and to union, which Indra recites in canto XIII, and the universal exhibition in Amaravati. Here is seen new wine put into old bottles. One can, for once in a way, conceive of a Mahakavya having for its theme the Electric Telegraph; it will not be more modern for that.

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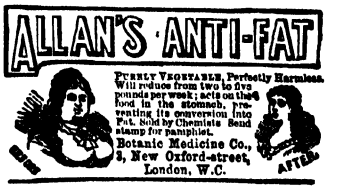

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CONTEMPORARY POETRY.

THE SUNYASSEE.

BY JAMES HUTCHINSON.

CANTO FIRST.

'Tis something, in the dearth of bliss,
To dream, at least, of what hath been;
That lovely resting place, between
Our infant woes, and the abyss
Of those, that wait our riper years;
Till they deny the bliss of tears;
When first the mutual pledge is given,
And heart to heart, and eye to eye,
Respond in sweetest sympathy,
Of love on earth;—of love in heaven.

I.

Slow sinks the sun, and as he dies away,
He casts a parting smile, on all below,
Bursts thro' the clouds, in streams of radiant glow
A martyr's halo, round the dying day;
While thro' the west, the dappl'd sombre grey
To golden sands is burnished, as they flow;
And many a fairy isle may fancy show,
Washed by its tranquil tide, in lake and bay,
But grieved to leave, he dark'ns in his ire,
Yet veils it, in his lovely rainbow train,
Hangs on the verge, a dusky globe of fire,
And nature all is hushed, in mourning—when
He sinks beneath, and bids the day expire,
And night, in twilight hues, resumes her reign.

II.

Go, seize that hour, to view on nature's page,
The far-sought home of India's Pilgrimage,
The sacred Gyah, where the holy Shrad'h
Hath power to make the parted spirit glad *,
To lull our kindred, in their final rest,
And blend their *Manes*, with th' already blest †

Behold! the plain extend, an open waste,
The knolls rough-scattered, as in nature's haste,
More near,—the city slumbering on its height,
Warm in the rays of day's expiring light;
The spires with foliage blent of richest dyes,
The white walls glist'ning, o'er the housetops, rise,
And higher yet, Ramgyah's lonely hill,

* The shrad'h of the Hindoos somewhat resembles the Wake of the Irish, or perhaps still more, the mass said for the dead. It is a religious ceremony performed, for the final rest of the deceased. When the Shrad'h happens to be that of a wealthy person, liberal presents are made to the Brahmins, and considerable sums of money distributed among the poor: on some occasions of the sort, the crowd is so great, that serious accidents occur to the poor creatures, thus collected.

† The Hindoos would appear to believe, in an intermediate state, somewhat resembling the purgatory of the Roman Catholics; and the pilgrimage to Gyah is performed, principally with the view of obtaining rest for the souls of their departed progenitors, and the blending or union of their spirits, with those of their ancestors, already blest. The ceremony, I believe, is supposed to be performed with most effect, by a son of the deceased, and the Hindoos are all accordingly desirous of male offspring; but in cases, in which that blessing has been denied, a son may be adopted for the purpose, inheriting, at the same time, the wealth of the deceased, or the ceremonies may, I believe, be performed, by a grandson, or other near male relative.

The precise number of shrines, at which religious ceremonies must be performed, to entitle the parties to the merits of the pilgrimage, I do not exactly recollect; but I think, they are about thirteen, and the period of time, which is thus occupied, about the same number of days. The following account of the concluding ceremonies performed on the last and principal day, at the Atchabut, is taken from a small work of fiction, but is sufficiently accurate for the general reader.

"Meanwhile, the accustomed ceremonies of the pilgrimage proceeded slowly, but regularly. The Rajah had made his offerings to the gods, and had offered up prayers, for the repose of the *Manes* of his ancestors, at the several shrines, and these were not a few; for there is scarcely a hill, or glen, around the place, that is not consecrated by some sacred tradition. He had prayed on the tops of the Ramsillah, and of the Pritsillah, and he had passed through the subterraneous passage, on the top of the romantic Bhurmpoum, typical of the second birth of man;—he had bathed in the Otter Manoos, and other holy pools, and had worshipped in the Soomp-aut or temple of the sun, and at the sacred impress of the foot of the god Vishnoo, as he stamps on the breast of a monstrous, and destructive demon. It now only remained for him, to pay his parting orisons, at the Atchabut. By this time his resources had been so deeply drawn upon, by Gya-wals, (the highest order of priesthood belonging to the place,) Achargees, Dameers, Satwas, Pindiroshes, and a whole host of people, in various religious garbs, who prey on the vitals, or rather on the purses of the pilgrims, that Asman Singh found himself constrained to stipulate with his Gya-wal, the amount, which he should pay, at the concluding ceremony; for if that is not performed, the whole of those previously gone through are said to be of no avail. The sum, which they agreed on, was a lakh of rupees, which considering the Rajah's rank and means, was not considered to be too much. The ceremony now proceeded, the Rajah had to wash the feet of his Gya-wal; in short, he had to worship him, as the representative of the deity; and after they had been duly consecrated, by a priest of an inferior order, who officiated on the occasion, he successively invested the Gya-wal, with every different article of apparel of the most costly description, with every different culinary utensil, used by the Hindoos, of solid silver; and finally, he presented him with a steed, and with an elephant, both richly caparisoned. While this ceremony was being performed, the Rajah could not help occasionally directing his attention to some of his followers, who were similarly engaged. They appeared to have been still less fortunate, in the selection of their priests, who were bargaining with them, with a degree of eagerness and cupidity, which would have done honour to the tribe of Israel. In short, they stript these poor creatures, to the very sword, which they had to defend themselves with, at a time when all went armed and to the very blanket, which was their scanty protection against the inclemencies of the weather.

"The purpose of the Rajah's visit was now accomplished; yet ere he departed, he would pass the Fulgo, and take a last look of Gyah, from the opposite bank. He, who has seen it, will not soon forget the interesting view; the river sweeping past, the sacred city rising from its banks, supported on the one hand, by the Ramsillah, and on the other, by the Bhurmpoum, towering above the surrounding peak, and crowned with its solitary temple; the whole forming a scene of picturesque beauty, which even classic, and romantic Greece might not be ashamed to own."

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Crowned with its gorgeous tree, more lonely still,*
The fairy scene o'ertopping with its boughs,
Like diadem, on beauty's matchless brows ;
While vengeful Doorgah, throned on either hand,
From mountain shrines, beholds her fav'rite land,†
Her hundred pennons flung abroad, and given,
In every hue, to woo the breath of heaven ; ‡
Behind—Myheer's far distant hills are roll'd,
Their summits glowing, in their tints of gold ;
Approach more near—the Fulgo sweeps along
His world of waters, beautiful as strong,
Lo ! where he comes, on the horizon's verge,
The half-hid groves scarce, o'er his wave, emerge ; §
His sloping banks with fruitful promise bend,
And distant crags their wilder grandeur lend.

III.

Such is my own, my native vale,
And Oh ! believe, I loved it well,
But never more, shall foot of mine
Leave impress, on its sacred soil,
Or stand unshod, before the shrine,
Of that famed Princess' costly pile ||
Where Vishnoo, as our Ved'hs attest, ¶
Stamps on the giant-demon's breast ;
Such thought, thou see'st, is idle now,
For death is marked, upon my brow ;
But were his threats and terrors vain,
I dare not venture there again ;
I need it not,—each nook and glen
Is as familiar to my ken ;
Tho' ten long years have passed away,
As I had left them yesterday ;
And once, right dear they were to me,
And dear to me they would be still,
But for that fatal memory,
That rises oft, against my will,
And will not, with my wish, depart
It hath such mastery o'er my heart.
Yes ! I have eaten of thy salt,
Kind stranger ! and I will unfold
To thee my tale ; tho' every fault,
And crime must there be shown, and told.

(To be continued.)

* Ramgyah is a small detached hill, surmounted by a gorgeous wide spreading tree. It is situated, on the right bank of the Fulgo, immediately opposite the old town of Gyah, and has altogether a very picturesque appearance.

† The temples, on the tops of the Ramsillah, and Bhurmjoun, on each side of the town, are those here alluded to.

‡ The Brahmins are in the habit of hoisting pennons, or small flags of different colors, on the spires of some of the Hindoo temples in India ; at Gyah this is particularly the case. These pennons seen from a distance, particularly, if the temple be on an elevated situation, or be in other respects romantically situated, add much to the picturesque effect.

§ The appearance here endeavoured to be described, is very remarkable in the Jeghna or great Ganges, where, in looking from one side of the river to the other, the mango topes or groves seem half submerged in the river ; for the same reason probably, that the hull of a vessel is not visible at sea, while at any considerable distance

‖ The temple of the Bishun Pud'h, (or Vishnoo's foot,) built at an expense, I think, I was told by the Brahmins, of nine lakhs of rupees, by that celebrated Mharatta Princess of the house of Holkar, Ahilbah Bhaee, of whom so interesting an account has been published by Sir John Malcolm, in his memoir on Central India. The structure, which is handsome for a Hindoo Temple, is composed entirely of a dark compact granite, or perhaps speaking more correctly, of what geologists call syenite. The principal object of adoration is the impress of the foot of the god Vishnoo, as he stamps on the breast of a fabulous demon of enormous size, whose head is said to be under the great temple at Boodh Gyah, and lower extremities under two hills named the Ramsillah and the Pritsillah. A statue or image of Ahilbah Bhaee herself has found a place, beside some of the deities, in an adjoining temple; thus bringing, within our own cognizance, an instance of the apotheosis of a goddess, or the canonization of a saint,—I believe the former to be the more correct expression, in the present instance.

¶ The Ved'hs or Bedahs, the sacred writings of the Hindoos, are, I believe, of the two descriptions, the Bedahs being the scriptures themselves, and the Shasters a sort of commentary, little less sacred, than the original.

WEEKLYANA.

THE *Gazette of India* of September 7 contains the three following Proclamations by the Governor-General in Council. They are numbered 1697-E, 1698 E and 1699-E, being all dated Simla, the 6th September 1895, issued from the Foreign Department over the signature W. J. Cuningham, Secretary to the Government of India.

"Whereas the territories known as the South Lushai Hills are part of the dominions of Her Majesty the Queen, Empress of India, and whereas the said territories, although hitherto administered as appertaining to the Lower Provinces of Bengal, have not been formally declared and appointed to be subject to any Presidency or Lieutenant-Governorship, and whereas it is expedient that such formal declaration and appointment should be made in respect of the said territories :—Know all men, and it is hereby proclaimed, that the Governor-General in Council, in exercise of the powers conferred upon him by the Statute 28 and 29 Vict., Ch. 17, Sec. 4, and with the sanction and approbation of the Secretary of State for India in Council, is hereby pleased to declare and appoint the said territories to be subject to the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, and further to direct that henceforth they shall be included within the Lower Provinces of Bengal."

"Whereas the territories known as the North Lushai Hills are part of the dominions of Her Majesty the Queen, Empress of India, and whereas the said territories, although hitherto administered as appertaining to the Province of Assam, have not been formally placed under any defined administration, and whereas it is expedient that the said territories should be formally placed under the administration of the Chief Commissioner of Assam : -Know all men, and it is hereby proclaimed, that the Governor-General in Council, in exercise of the powers conferred upon him by the Statute 17 and 18 Vict, Ch. 77, Sec. 3, and with the sanction and approbation of the Secretary of State for India in Council, has been pleased to take the said territories under his immediate authority and management and to place them under the administration of the Chief Commissioner of Assam, and further to direct that henceforth they shall be included within the Province of Assam."

"Whereas the territories known as the Chin Hills are part of the dominions of Her Majesty the Queen, Empress of India, and whereas the said territories, although hitherto administered as appertaining to the Province of Burma, have not been formally placed under any defined administration, and whereas it is expedient that the said territories should be formally placed under the administration of the Chief Commissioner of Burma :—Know all men, and it is hereby proclaimed, that the Governor-General in Council, in exercise of the powers conferred upon him by the Statute 17 and 18 Vict., Ch. 77, Sec. 3, and with the sanction and approbation of the Secretary of State for India in Council, has been pleased to take the said territories under his immediate authority and management and to place them under the administration of the Chief Commissioner of Burma and further to direct that henceforth they shall be included within the Province of Burma."

We have quoted the three orders in full in order to point out the distinction in the wording of the first from that of the two last. In the first the transfer is direct, in the other two it is a secondary process. The Governor-General takes up the administration himself and then makes it over. Regarding the first, we will only remark that Sir Rivers Thompson had cried himself hoarse that the territories under the Lieutenant-Governor were too large for one ruler.

* * *

STORMS and floods are reported from the Bombay Presidency. The railway was breached and traffic suspended :—

"The south-eastern district of the G. I. P. Railway between Barsi and Wadi has suffered severely from the cyclonic storm and heavy floods during Friday night and Saturday morning. All traffic is at a standstill between Barsi and Ghangapur, and reports tend to show that the Nizam's and Southern Mahratta Railways have also suffered extensively. The rains had been much wanted for the district crops for some time, but the rainfall became excessive at Sholapur, where 17 inches fell in 24 hours, at one time 10 inches being registered in seven hours. High winds of a cyclonic character accompanied the storm and great destruction has been done to railway and other property. Accurate details are at present not known, as both the railway and Government wires are destroyed in many places. So far as can be found, the damage to the G. I. P line is far greater than that which resulted from the floods on the north-east line last year by which the Mudwa bridge was carried away and the ghat terminals were blocked in the Deccan. No fewer than four bridges are stated to be damaged or carried away, and the repairs to them will entail a large cost. Between Barsi and Pakni, at mileage 268, near Mohol, the Seena masonry bridge, twelve spans of 40 feet each, has been half carried away, no fewer than six spans having been thrown over by the force of the swollen torrent ; and close by mileage 261 the line has also been breached, but the latter has since been repaired.

The Seena bridge was carried away, the others were swept away or damaged, during Friday night or early on Saturday morning. At mileage 318 the Bori bridge, which is a comparatively new structure, has been completely swept away. It was massive, and built of masonry with iron girders, and consisted of 20 spans of 30 feet. Storm water rising to 30 feet is said to have wrecked it. Passing Dudni next, the damage is at Benesere Bridge, which consists of six spans of 60 feet each. This bridge has been damaged on three pre-

vious occasions, and at present the information tends to show that two spans and their piers have been thrown down. The Marijee embankment near Ghangapur is reported to be extensively damaged through being scoured away by the swiftly flowing river, but hopes are entertained that the flood piers and girders of the bridge are intact."

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THE Patna bad livelihood prosecution has ended for the moment. The rule issued by the High Court at the instance of Rai Isri Persad has been made absolute. The Chief Justice delivered an elaborate judgment. He thus interpreted section 123 of the Code of Criminal Procedure:

"It has been contended by Mr. Pugh on the part of the Crown that the proceedings in this case having been referred by the Magistrate for the orders of the Session-Judge under the provisions of section 123 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, the Court ought not to interfere at the present stage, but should leave it to the Sessions Judge to revise the proceedings and make such order as he may deem necessary. It appears, however, that the bond which Rai Ishri Pershad was ordered to execute has been executed by him, and that he is not, and has not been detained in prison in default of executing such bond. That being so, it appears to us that it was not necessary to submit the proceedings for the order of the Court of Sessions under section 123, and that the Court of Sessions has no jurisdiction to interfere with the order made by the Magistrate authorised to enquire into the conduct of an habitual offender of the classes therein specified to show cause why he should not be ordered to execute a bond with sureties for his good behaviour for such period not exceeding three years as the Magistrate thinks fit to fix. Then section 123 runs as follows:—'If any person ordered to give security under section 106 of section 118 does not give such security on or before the date on which the period for which such security is to be given commences, he shall, except in the case next hereinafter mentioned, be committed to prison, or, if he is already in prison, be detained in prison, until such period expires, or until within such period he gives the security to the Court or Magistrate who made the order requiring it, or to the officers in charge of the jail in which the person so ordered is detained.' Now the whole of this section as we read it relates to the procedure to be followed in case the person ordered to give security does not give it on or before the date on which the period for which security is to be given commences. The first clause is general, and provides that except in the case mentioned in the second clause, the person ordered to give security shall on such default be committed to, or detained in, prison until such period expires, or until within such period he gives the security required. The case mentioned in the second clause is when the person has been ordered to give security for a period exceeding one year, and in that case the Magistrate, instead of issuing a warrant for the detention of such person in prison during the period for which security is required (unless the security be given in the meantime) is to issue a warrant directing his detention in prison pending the order of the Court of Sessions, and to submit his proceedings to to that Court for such orders as it thinks fit, and it is for the Court of Sessions then, if it thinks fit, to make an order for the detention of such person in prison if he fails to give the security for a period not exceeding three years. But the whole of the section has reference to the case when default is made in finding the security required. If that security is given the section does not apply, and no reference to the Court of Sessions is necessary. This, as we are given to understand, was also the view of the law which was taken by the Bench of this Court which granted the rule, and we think it is the correct view, and according to that view it is this Court and this Court only that has jurisdiction to revise the proceedings in the present case by virtue of the power vested in it by section 439 of the Code. That being our view of the law it, of course, becomes necessary for us to consider this case upon the evidence which was before the Magistrate, and upon that evidence to form an opinion as to whether it is justified according to the law."

The court found the evidence unsatisfactory and quashed the conviction. But this is only the beginning of the trouble and ruin that await Rai Isri Persad. He has escaped the present prosecution, after a hard and costly fight. But the district authorities do not believe in his innocence.

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MR. S. Jacob being placed on special duty from the 15th September, that is being deputed as a witness before the Royal Commission on India, Mr. A. F. Cox, on privilege leave, is Gazetted Comptroller and Auditor General and Head Commissioner of Paper Currency, Mr. G. E. Manisty, Accountant-General, Bengal, acting, in addition to his own duties, till relieved by Mr. Cox, as Comptroller and Auditor General and Head Commissioner of Paper Currency.

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MR. H. G. Cooke has obtained furlough for one year. The Hon'ble Mr. Romesh Chunder Dutt, C.I.E., officiates for him as Commissioner of the Orissa Division and Superintendent of the Tributary Mahals, Orissa. This is Mr. Dutt's second appointment as officiating Commissioner of a Division.

THE Radical press in England attributes the Conservative majority in the new Parliament to the absence of what is called a just electoral system in the British Isles. No system of representation, however, can be perfect for the party that loses

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THE following is supposed to be the text of a letter addressed by the Queen-Empress to Maharaja Dhuleep Sing, while the latter was coquetting with Russia. It is given to the world by M. Elice de Cyon in his new work entitled "Histoire de l'Entente Franco-Russe."

"Windsor Castle, July 6, 1886.

Dear Maharajah,—I hear extraordinary reports of you resigning your allowance and of your intending to transfer your allegiance to Russia! I *cannot* believe this of *you who always* professed such loyalty and devotion *towards me*, your truest friend, and who I may say took a maternal interest in you from the time when, now thirty-two years ago, you came to England as a beautiful, a charming boy! I watched your life with true interest, and thought you home with your amiable wife and fine children was a pattern to all Indian Princes. But after the death of your really true and devoted friend, Colonel Oliphant, bad and false friends have surrounded you and put things into your head and heart which I am sure *never could*, under *other* circumstances, have entered them.

Let me appeal to all that is noble in you, and abandon wild ideas and plans, which can only plunge you into deeper difficulties and lead to disastrous consequences. Think of me as your best friend and the good mother of your dear son who bears my name. Trusting that you may be able to give me assurance that those reports are untrue.

Believe me *always*, your true *friend*, Victoria, I.R."

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WE read the following in a morning contemporary:—

"A stimulus seems to have been recently imparted to English journalism abroad. Paris has long been well supplied. We heard the other day of a projected English newspaper in Berlin, and another is now reported to be starting in Copenhagen. This latest venture is to be called the *Copenhagen Herald*."

Englishmen cannot live without their journal. Considering the number of Englishmen residing at Copenhagen, the *Herald* achieves a desideratum.

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THE following is going the round of the press:—

"When 'Uncle Tom's Cabin' was written, "Mrs. Stowe's husband advised her to sell it for a black silk dress, or £10 in money. More by chance than design, she chose a royalty instead. Eight presses never stopped day and night once the book was in the market, and very soon the publisher handed a cheque for £2,000 to the author and her husband on account of royalties. 'They seemed dazed'—at least, so their publisher says. Authors are not so innocent as to be dazed now under such circumstances; nor were the Stowes by the time the second cheque for £2,000 was handed to them. More than 3,20,000 copies of the book were sold during the first year.

NOTES & LEADERETTES,

OUR OWN VIEWS,

&

THE WEEK'S TELEGRAMS IN BRIEF, WITH OCCASIONAL COMMENTS

SIR Thomas Martin has informed Reuter's Agency that the Amir and the Shahzada are highly gratified with the latter's reception in England, especially by the Queen and the members of the Royal family. The Shahzada has been profoundly impressed with the greatness of England as evidenced by her manufactures and commerce. He commented frequently on the absorption of Englishmen in peaceful affairs, and their unconcern in military matters. The Prince was of opinion that while the military displays he witnessed were imposing spectacles, they would have equally impressed him that England was a military nation even if the aspect of the troops had been less decorative. Sir Thomas Martin does not doubt that the visit will be productive of infinite good, as the Afghans will now understand that India is only one of the jewels in the British Crown. Mutual suspicions will be eradicated, and he is of opinion that when the time arrives the British Government will find a way to arrange for the diplomatic representation of the Amir in London.

THE American Government has resolved to hold a separate enquiry into Chengta riots, and has selected Consul Read and the American Naval Attaché at Tokio to conduct it.

THE Porte has informed the Foreign Ambassadors of various concessions which will be included in the Armenian reforms, comprising the admission of Christians to the smaller offices, the creation of a rural police, and permission to the Dragomans to communicate directly with the Reform Supervision Committee sitting at the Porte.

THE imports into the United Kingdom for August show an increase of nine per cent. and exports ten per cent.

A RESCRIPT has been issued by the Emperor of Germany, in which he appeals to the people against the enemies who know no Fatherland, and who at times of national enthusiasm like the Sedan fêtes revile the memory of the great Emperor.

LORD Roberts has arrived at Stettin *en route* to the German autumn manœuvres. He dined with the Emperor William, the Emperor Francis Joseph, and other notables. Political importance is attached to the presence of the two Emperors at the manœuvres.

SIR West Ridgeway has been appointed Governor of Ceylon. He had been in the Indian Foreign Office, and, after the recall of Sir Peter Lumsden, was put at the head of the Afghan Boundary Commission. For his services in this connection he was knighted and made Under Secretary for Ireland.

THE Lord and Lady Mayoress of England have been well received in Paris. At a banquet given in his honour, Sir Joseph Renals strongly emphasized the friendship of the English people for the French. The French Minister of Justice, in replying, spoke of the commercial fraternization between the two countries as exhibited by the visit of the Lord Mayor. Both countries, he said, have like interests, notwithstanding that political prophecies are to the contrary.

THE Czar received Prince Hohenlohe, the German Chancellor, and was extremely gracious. The Prince had a prolonged interview with His Majesty.

SIR Nicholas O'Conor, Minister at Pekin, replaces Sir Frank Lascelles as British Ambassador at St. Petersburg.

IN a letter Mr. Gladstone states that his views on bimetallism are unchanged, and that he regards the currency movement as a passing humour of the hour which is, however, doomed to nullity and disappointment.

THE Khedive dined with the Sultan on the 12th and started for Egypt the next day.

THE fight over the Bhagalpur election for the Bengal Legislative Council has ended disastrously. Neither of the two candidates proposed has been accepted by Government. The partizans on either side carried the contest to extreme bitter end with unyielding spirit, and the Government, to keep itself clear of the fight, has just Gazetted Maharaja Bahadur Sir Rameshwar Prosad Singh, K.C.I.E., of Darbhanga, in the district of Monghyr, a member of the Council of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal for the purpose of making Laws and Regulations in the Bengal Division of the Presidency of Fort William. Dacca was wiser. The interpretation of the rule under which East Bengal was given a second chance, could not apply to Bhagalpur, for the delegates had exhausted the time allowed for the election.

AS we have already announced, Mr. F. A. Pearson, Chief Presidency Magistrate, Calcutta, and Judge of the Court for the trial of Pilots, goes on leave for one month and twelve days. During his absence the Hon'ble Nawab Syed Ameer Hossein, C. I. E., the other stipendiary Presidency Magistrate, will act as Chief Magistrate. The cup of his bliss is not, however, full. He will not be allowed to preside at the Court of Mr. Pearson but be confined to his own of the Northern Division. A European barrister-at-law, Mr. Bonnaud, will do the routine duties of the Chief Magistrate. Nevertheless, the Hon'ble Syed Ameer Hossein will have the paper dignity of the Chief of Presidency Magistrates. Properly speaking, he is the first Native to hold that post. If Mr. Justice Ameer Ali had had the same honour, he was more. He was a barrister-at-law. The Mahomedan community cannot but be grateful to Sir Charles Elliott for the honour done them in the present appointment.

THE fifth Judgeship of the Calcutta Court of Small Causes is a temporary appointment and is now held by Mr. Abul Hassan. After the holidays, when Babu Jodoonath Roy retires, Mr. Hassan will get a lift to the fourth judgeship and Mr. Paniety be confirmed as Registrar. The vacancy in the temporary post will be filled up by Mr. A. F. M. Abdur Rahman.

THE High Courts do not always agree. In Bengal, an examination fraud is not punishable under the Indian Penal Code. In the N.-W. P. as also in Madras, they take a different view of the law. Lately the Sessions Judge of Lucknow sentenced one Sheo Pershad to fourteen months' rigorous imprisonment for committing forgery at the Middle English examination held in Lucknow in April 1893. It was found that in collusion with a clerk, who was pardoned having turned approver, he had exchanged his own answer papers with another's and thereby passed the examination. The Additional Judicial Commissioner has just confirmed, on appeal, the conviction and sentence.

IN the Madras High Court, before the Chief Justice and Mr. Justice Parker the Public Prosecutor applied for a rule against the editor of the *Madras Mail* to show cause why he should not be dealt with for contempt of court in that he had published an article on the Kilugamalai riots case, commenting on its merits when *sub judice*. The Prosecutor filed an affidavit showing that the appeal was filed in the High Court on the 25th of August, and that the alleged comment was made on the 28th of August when the case was still pending. He cited English authorities, and referred specially to the case of Surendranath Banerji, wherein it was held by the Calcutta High Court and the Privy Council that High Courts in India had the same powers as High Courts in England. He stated further that during the Sessions trial of the case a number of objectionable letters had appeared in the *Madras Mail*, and that in the article referred to it was stated that the Sessions Judge had gone out of his way to notice these letters, which were incapable of being contradicted. Mr. Powell suggested that the article was either communicated or inspired by persons connected with the appeal. The Chief Justice observed that the matter was of importance, and as it was not necessary to read the article in court he would take time to consider what steps should be taken. Ultimately he decided not to take any. He indeed agreed with the Public Prosecutor that it was undesirable that any remarks should appear in a newspaper concerning a case *sub judice*. But the judges did not think that the remarks were intended to influence them in the hearing of the appeal, and that this was not an occasion which called for the exercise of the Court's extraordinary power to punish for contempt. At the same time the Judges regretted that such an article should have been published with respect to a case which must come before a Criminal Bench. The rule asked for was refused. In the Original Side of the Calcutta High Court, the Counsel for Ameer Khan, the late Mr. Anstey, had complained of similar conduct in a Calcutta daily, but nothing came out of it. In the Jain defamation prosecution in the Calcutta sessions Mr. Justice Pigot strongly remarked on the discussion in the newspapers of a particular

DEAFNESS COMPLETELY CURED! Any person suffering from Deafness, Noises in the Head, &c., may learn of a new, simple treatment, which is proving very successful in completely curing cases of all kinds. Full particulars, including many unsolicited testimonials and newspaper press notices, will be sent post free on application. The system is, without doubt, the most successful ever brought before the public. Address, Aural Specialist, Albany Buildings, 39, Victoria Street, Westminster, London, S. W.

evidence and threatened punishment for repetition of the offence. It is time, however, that the antiquated and absurd doctrine of *sub judice* should formally be knocked on the head. To say the least, it is an impediment to justice. The better class of British Judges are gradually shaking off the old ideas respecting contempt. Counsel may argue on both sides and seek to mislead a Judge as regards both the facts and the law involved in a case, only when a newspaper editor takes it up for dissection, judicial impartiality incurs a serious danger. The Judge can no longer be sure of preserving his mental balance. Newspaper comments on cases *sub judice* are regarded as contempts on no better grounds than these. The contempt charged to the *Bengalee* was admitted by the accused and there was no argument. The *Englishman's* contempt, in the days of Sir Barnes Peacock, in what is called Taylor's case, was fully argued. It was then shown that the hauling up of the editor and the printer could not be supported by any English precedent that was not three hundred years old. A power which no English Court had exercised for three centuries ought to be held as no longer existing. The non-exercise of power for such a long period, could not be due to the absence of occasions, especially in a country noted for the freedom of its press. The law of contempt in India ought to be placed on a satisfactory footing, by express legislation, if necessary, instead of being left to be gathered from musty precedents of the Tudor period.

HERE is a metrical translation in English by Ram Sharma of the Sanskrit lines by Pandit Ramnath Tarkaratna on the death of Dr. Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee :—

For that I could not through mischance
Unto thy dying bed repair,—
A life-long sorrow, like a deadly arrow,
I must within my bosom bear!

And joy is cheerless,—Home is drear—
All—all is blank to deep Despair;
There's gloom around,—the world is poorer,
'Reft of a gem so bright and rare!

Of nature pure, and cultured mind,
Ah! Sambhu Chunder gifted—wise!
Ah! brother! why art thou,—thy friends forsaking now,—
An early pilgrim for the skies?

Goddess of Song! Oh, wing thy flight
To heaven, where Sambhu now doth rest!
That so thy wreaths may not be touched—
Ay, rudely touched by hands unblest!

AN Indian Journalist being the Life, Letters and Correspondence of Dr. Sambhu C. Mookerjee" by Mr. Skrine will be published on Monday. Subscribers who have paid will be supplied with the first copies. Subscribers to the "Essays by a Brahman" may have copies of this book on their remitting the difference of price and will be reckoned as paid subscribers to the "Journalist."

MR. Skrine, who deeply sympathises with the Bengalis, is as useful in Calcutta as he has been in the mofussil. There is hardly a subject of whatever importance in this great city which does not arrest his attention. Nor does he speak without authority or knowledge, nor rush into print without due enquiry. His ripe experience too is of great value. On Wednesday, he delivered his second lecture to the Society for the Higher Training of Young Men. It was based on his forthcoming book or rather the subject thereof, on two or three points of whose remarkable career he expatiated at great length for the education and benefit of young men. We publish the lecture in its entirety elsewhere. It was well suited to the place, and was a masterpiece of its kind. It reminded us of the glorious days of the Bethune Society when really good papers were read and able addresses delivered by master minds with thorough grasp of their subject It was a thoughtful paper and the result of long cultured experience which the young men to whom it was addressed would do well to study and act upon. Unlike many of his class, Mr. Skrine would not dissuade them from Government service to learn self-reliance in other fields of labour for their daily bread He put before his audience the comforts and discomforts of service and pointed out how difficult it was for the friedless to get on in it. The plodding and the intriguing have always the best chance. The bright and the brilliant must go to the wall. That is a curse of service, everywhere and in every clime.

The Indian Association for the Cultivation of Science.

210, Bow-Bazar Street, Calcutta.

(Session 1895-96.)

Lecture by Dr. Mahendra Lal Sircar, on Thursday, the 19th Inst., at 7-30 P.M. *Subject:* Laws of Magnetism concluded.

Admission Fee, Rs. 4 for Physics, and Rs. 4 for Chemistry; Rs. 6 for both Physics and Chemistry; Rs. 4 for Physiology; Rs. 4 for General Biology; Rs. 6 for complete course of Physiology and Biology. The charge for a single lecture is 4 Annas.

MAHENDRA LAL SIRCAR, M.D.,
Honorary Secretary.

September 14, 1895.

HERE is how the Maharaja of Patiala enjoyed his late trip to Bangalore :—

"His Highness the Maharajah of Patiala is not likely to carry away many kindly recollections of his visit to Southern India, as far as the Bangalore portion of it is concerned. Only the other day we were informed by a local paper that at a performance in the Cubbon Rooms, the Prince on arrival found his reserved seat occupied by a British officer who refused to give it up, and the Prince left the hall after protesting against the discourtesy shown him. In the Polo Tournament His Highness was one of the umpires in the match between the Ooty Gymkhana and the Gunners, when the Artillery team, according to a local report, rebelled openly against his decision. His Highness delivered up his whistle and left the ground in high dudgeon, taking his departure from the station the same evening. It is impossible, of course, with the information to hand, to say who was to blame for such an unpleasant contretemps; but that it was most regretable every one will admit."

The Maharaja frequently forgets himself as regards the company he keeps. He may be said to court such insults by mixing too freely with everybody capable of riding a horse. Why, the labouring men of Fairport and its vicinity, who named Ethe Ochiltree their arbitrator on a disputed point connected with one of their rough games, paid the king's gaberlunzie more respect than English "gentlemen" have paid to the Maharaja-umpire of their own choosing. If the Maharaja were not an Indian Prince of the day, his verdict would have commanded respect. It won't do for even crowned heads in India to interfere with institutions and games that are peculiarly European.

A QUESTION has been asked whether Mr. Gladstone is not the oldest man who ever made a speech? Mr Gladstone will be eighty-six on the 29th December next. The Emperor William made speeches at a greater age than this, and so did Moltke; but then it is said their addresses ought not to be classed as speeches, for they are only military harangues. The parallel suggested is that of Moses. The chief of the children of Israel was a young man of eighty when he bade the slaves of Pharaoh despoil the Egyptians and march to the desert During their forty years' wanderings in the wilderness he sometimes admonished his followers. So Moses may be taken as an orator. Surely, the glamour of greatness dims the vision of the writer. Gladstone is undoubtedly great and would be so if he had no similarity of any kind with the biblical celebrity

THE death of Mr. Satyendra Nath Palit, a chip of the old block, the youngest son of the famous Mr. T. Palit, barrister-at-law, is truly to be deplored. A junior member of the Indian Civil Service, he had shewn capacity to rule and fell a martyr to duty. The death of such men at an early age, is, in a sense, a general loss, and that is the only consolation that we can offer to young Palit's sorrowing parents.

MR. Justice Norris left Calcutta on Tuesday. At the Howrah Railway station, there was a large gathering to bid him good bye. The Anti-Vivisection Society, of which he is President, took the opportunity to present him with a farewell address. We give his reply:

"My dear, my good friends, I need hardly say that I feel flattered by the kindly words expressed in the address you have been pleased to present to me on the eve of my departure for England. I know that

I little deserve all the kind things you have said about me. You have spoken of my career as a Judge of the High Court. In this connection I can only say that I have striven to the best of my ability to fill that high office and to fulfil its functions with impartiality, fairness and integrity. In relation to the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals and the Anti-Vivisection Society, I have absolutely done nothing to reproach myself with. I have left nothing undone to forward their objects, and I believe that my labours have not been in vain. The Anti-Vivisection Society was in its infancy when I first joined it, and it at once gained my warmest support. I found it composed of earnest men whose desire it was to protect the lower animals from cruelty and torture. I believe that vivisection is against the highest laws of the Creator. I hope your efforts to prevent such cruelty will be crowned with success. I am far from strong—it is ill-health that takes me away from this country, and I have had to brace myself up to meet you to-night. I leave you with feelings of regret. I have made many friends during my sojourn in this country, and I quit it and them with feelings of sorrow. I wish you all health and happiness and hope that the blessing of God may abundantly rest upon you all."

SHEIKH Bhola of Bhowampur, who was charged with the murder of his infant wife aged 11 years by cutting her throat and neck with a knife while sleeping, has, on conviction by the jury, been sentenced, by the Alipore Sessions Judge, to be hanged. The sentence is, of course, subject to the approval of the High Court. The prisoner confessed his guilt, and said that he had done the deed because of suspicion of unfaithfulness in the wife whose parents had wished to take her away. His pleader took the plea of insanity. The jury unanimously found the husband guilty of the murder of the wife.

REIS & RAYYET.

Saturday, September 14, 1895.

JOURNALISM BY WAR.

IF the utterances of the *Indian Mirror* be believed, it would seem that the British Government of India very often incurs dangers that threaten its very existence. Luckily, the dangers all pass away, as quickly as they arise, without the Government feeling the necessity of making any preparations, general or especial, for combatting or warding them off. The Viceroy and his Councillors might not have known it, but the information possessed by the *Mirror*, obtained, no doubt, at first hand, enabled it to announce with great solemnity that the Indian Government, having insulted the whole Japanese nation, stood on the brink of a precipice, for Japan, whose military strength at the present moment is as great as that of any of the first class European Powers, might not coolly bear the insult. The readers of the *Mirror*, however, are often treated to such dangers, and hence they went through the usual routine of their daily duties without discovering any evidence of internal agitation. The stock-market betrayed no sign of unquietness. The quotations did not go down. Fund-holders were in no hurry to sell, and none of the speculators were known to give large orders for purchase. The authorities of the Fort did not mount a single additional gun on the ramparts. The Navy did not receive any orders to watch the archipelago—for an early sight of Japanese iron-clads. The British Consul in Japan was utterly ignorant of the storm that was brewing in the retreat in Mott's Lane, Calcutta, guarded by cold lions on the gate. The citizens did not gather in groups and knots for discussing the latest general order respecting the movement of troops. There was no excitement among even the "devils" of the printing establishment in Dhurmtolla Street. For all that, there was danger to the empire. The *Mirror* had espied it, though it was not bigger than the hand as it appeared on the horizon.

The *casus belli* was nothing less than the affront the British Government of India permitted the Mohant of Budh-Gya to offer to Japan by not allowing the image of Buddha which Japan had sent to be enshrined in the Temple. Every man, woman, and child in Japan was interested in the sacred image, six hundred years old, of the founder of the Buddhist faith. All Japan was watching with keen anxiety the fate of that relic. It was an unsolicited gift from the people of Japan. The Mohant, in his ignorance, did not know what he was about. The consequences of his refusal were simply dreadful. Mr. H. Dharampal, in his single person, represented the vast numerical strength of the Buddhist world. At least, all Japan was, for the nonce, embodied in him. Opposition to the will of Mr. Dharampal was opposition to the expressed wishes of Japan. The Mohant might think it safe to prevent the enshrinement of the sacred image but the British Government of India ought to have known better. The Indian Empire of Britain, if it did not stand by the sufferance of Japan, could not safely provoke Japan, especially after the glorious feats recently achieved by her army over the well-ordered and vast military strength of China. The councils of the British Indian Empire, it must be held, were inspired by folly instead of that wisdom which the *Mirror* had the right to expect, considering that it was the *Mirror* which took upon itself to advise the authorities every day on all questions connected with the administration. The Government had no business to sit with folded hands and quietly contemplate the dire insult offered to a powerful nation by one of its own subjects. Impregnable, however, as the case was which the *Mirror* had put forward, unfortunately, it was Dharampal himself who, by certain needless disclosures from the witness-box, materially weakened it. The poetry of the situation was lost. It is no longer possible to invest the denouement with a tragical character. The affair has sunk beneath even the requirements of a comedy. It has degenerated into a downright farce. Read the following from Mr. Dharampal's account of the image, as elicited in cross-examination :—

"The idea of enshrining a new image in the Mahabodhi Temple first struck me when I was in Japan in the year 1893. I suggested the idea to the Japanese. The idea was my own, suggested by reading a passage in the *Venayapushamala*. That is an old Buddhist book, several centuries old. I read it for the first time in Japan. It was quoted in the Mahabodhi journal.

"*Question.*—Thereupon you requested the Japanese, Mr. Asahi, to give you the image?

"*Answer.*—I suggested to the Buddhists there and to the Right Reverend Asahi, High Priest, that it would be better if an image be sent to the Mahabodhi Temple at Gya, as there was no proper image of Buddha. The Japanese were not unwilling to part with the image. They gave it with great delight and at the same time with sorrow."

So, it was Mr. Dharampal in whose fertile brain the idea of enshrining a new image in the Temple had first arisen. It is not known what representations he made to the High Priest, Mr. Asahi, for inducing him to part with the image. Of one thing we may be certain. Mr. Dharampal never informed the Japanese priest of the difficulty there was in the way of the enshrinement of the image. If he had told him of this, the High Priest would never have parted with the image. If the Japanese Buddhists that entrusted the image to Mr.

Dharmpal feel vexed or indignant at its not having been placed as yet within the Temple, the proper object of such sentiment would be Mr. Dharampal himself and not the Mohant. It was Dharampal who, by a singular act of indiscretion, invited the High Priest of Tokio to court an insult, if insult it is, which premises the restoration of the image to those very people that have parted with it sorrowfully. Read, however, in the light of these facts, the following extract from a leading article in the *Indian Mirror* :

"The armed resistance of the Mohant to the setting up of an image of Buddha in the Mahabodhi Temple, and that after he had once definitely consented, is an event from which very serious complications are likely to arise. It cannot be that Japan will quietly bear the gross insult, offered by this Hindu priest, and not only the Japanese, but every Buddhist, will consider the insult as given to Gautama's entire flock. When the news of the outrage reaches Japan, her indignation will be something which we would not like to picture to ourselves. The insult will be considered as given not only by a Hindu priest or the Hindu people, but also by the British Government of India. If the Government take no immediate action in the matter, it will at once alienate the sympathy of Japan, China and Siam, and political consequences may ensue for which it is not prepared. After the recent occurrence at Budh-Gya, the continued possession of the Mahabodhi Temple by a Hindu Mohant will lead to dreadful results."

We do not know which to admire most in the above passage, its rhetorical cleverness or the assurance of the writer in thinking that his sentences would really frighten the Government into immediate interference with the management of the Temple. The Mohant's opposition to Dharampal is nothing less than "armed resistance." He had never consented to the placing of the image within the Temple. Yet the poor man is represented as having aggravated his offence by resistance after having once definitely agreed to the scheme of enshrinement. Mark the excitement into which the writer works himself as he proceeds. At first, the "armed resistance,"—which, if we are to believe Dharampal, consisted of the Mohant's mukhtear having gently touched Dharampal's shoulder for calling his attention to what he was saying,—is spoken of as likely to cause "serious complications." Soon enough the resistance takes the form of a "gross insult to Japan," which Japan "will not quietly bear." The picture of Japan's wrath, it seems, does not satisfy the writer. Probably, it is not sufficiently frightful. Hence the bringing in of every member of "Gautama's flock" as having been insulted by the insult to Japan. Even this seems to be tame. The "insult," therefore, undergoes a quick transformation. It becomes "an outrage" pure and simple, and Japan, instead of quietly bearing it, will, we are told, discover "an indignation" such that the writer actually fears "to picture it" to himself. One would suppose that the writer must have been the victim of Japanese indignation, at least once in his life; that Japan is noted for having invaded Bengal at least once, carrying fire and sword before her, and raising pyramids of human heads like Tamarlane: otherwise the reluctance of the writer to even picture to himself the indignation of Japan would be thoroughly inexplicable. Having succeeded in frightening himself very satisfactorily,—to a measure which the whole Theosophical brotherhood may be expected to approve,—the writer veers round and strives to show who the real culprit is to whom the outrage should be ascribed. It is not the Hindu priest that is the author of the outrage on the Buddhist world. No; not even the Hindu people of India. Japan, in her wrath, will never think so. On the other hand, that great military empire of the East will identify the British Government of India with the outrage. We are not told the reason why Japan would take such a truly logical view. Never mind: the fact is there, Japan will view it in such a light. And then? Why, the Government should immediately interfere; else, "political consequences may ensue for which the Government is not prepared." Probably, the *Mirror* is in direct communication with the Mikado. Not content with this, which for such a weak Government as that of Britain in India ought to be sufficient, the writer winds up his observations by telling the Government that the continued possession of the Temple by its Hindoo owners, will simply "lead to dreadful results."

Surely, India ought to be proud of such journalism!

DR. SAMBHU C. MOOKERJEE.

[A Lecture delivered, on Wednesday, the 11th September, by Mr. F. H. Skrine, I. C. S., at the Society for the Higher Training of Young Men.]

Books console: but they do not teach, said a great novelist: Experience must come of ourselves. There is truth in the dictum with regard to fiction at least: but it cannot be held to apply to biography. It is possible to gather useful lessons from the career of a good and great man, faithfully recorded. Dr. Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee, whose life I am about to publish, merited both epithets, and if he did not rise to supreme excellence the fault lay, not in his intellectual powers but in a defective moral and physical training.

It may be said with perfect truth that the most important factor in Mookerjee's complex character was his pride of birth and race. He was a Brahman of the Brahman, and refers again and again in his letters to his illustrious descent, his claim to represent the Rishis of old. I am not one of those who underrate the advantages of good birth. A distinguished family is an organic growth. Each of its members lives in long past times when he glances back at his ancestors and looks forward to surviving in his descendants centuries after his little life is sped. Thus he enjoys an eternity of the *ego* and death is robbed of half its terrors. There are few sensations so strange or so profound as those evoked by a succession of family portraits, when we find traces of the same passions, the same experiences as stir our own individuality in some well ruffed gallant of Queen Bess's days or in some divine of the last century tricked out in the majesty of a full-bottomed wig.

The old French nobility, which as a social and political power, was annihilated by the Revolution, affords a typical example of the advantages and drawbacks of an aristocratic system. Their most impressionable years were spent in sumptuous and artistic surroundings and in early youth they came into contact with all that was worth knowing or contemporary society. They had a lofty if somewhat narrow conception of public duty leading them to abandon the grandeur of Versailles and the intellectual delights of Parisian *salon* for the sordid hardship of war; and pour out their life blood without stint at the bidding of their sovereign. But growing up as they did in an atmosphere of servile flattery, they naturally enough regarded all outside their pale as made of coarser materials than themselves. A story is told of a great lady in those old days, who in the course of a morning call on a wealthy commoner, said that mankind resembled cups and saucers. The nobility was fine porcelain; the middle classes, ordinary China, and the lower common pottery. This brilliant apothegm was overheard by a footman, who when told a few minutes afterwards by his mistress that her ladyship wished to see the children of the house, bawled out at the top of his voice from the hall so as to be overheard in the drawing room, "Here Pottery, bring young China to be kissed by old Porcelain!"

This mental attitude was affected by King Louis the Fourteenth

and his great grandson the fifteenth of that name. Alfieri, the Byron of Italy, visited Paris towards the close of the latter monarch's interminable reign and was presented at court. He tells us in his memoirs that he never forgave the air of lofty pride and insolence with which the Most Christian king received him. It was as if a Brobdignagian were to look down on a mortal of ordinary stature and ask "what curious insect may this be?" Let those who are well born or of high caste vigilantly check the growth of sentiments which lessen their sympathy with others doomed unlike themselves to live a few years of sorrow and then to be clean forgotten!

Another drawback of high inherited position is the absence it involves of any stimulus to exertion. John Bright defined happiness as "congenial occupation with a sense of progress" and we must all remember that there is no standing still in this world. We are fated to progress, or to fall behind in the race. It was said by a wit of the last generation that no being in the world was more to be pitied by a thinking mind than a young, rich, healthy and handsome Duke, for he had nothing to wish or strive for. When the storm of Revolution began to rage, there was no one in power, from the unhappy King Louis XVI downwards, who had enough resolution and power of initiative to attempt to control it, and dominion slipped from the impotent hands of men paralysed by self-indulgence to those of the dregs of the people. The Reign of Terror and the guillotine which have eternally disgraced our civilization were the inevitable result.

Education of the highest type can alone give the required breadth of view. The noble who has had that inestimable advantage weighs his own infinite littleness in the great scale of creation. His heart goes out to his fellows less favourably placed, and he lives under, an ever present sense of the obligations he owes society which has given him such enormous power for good. I was much struck by a remark made by the late Earl of Derby when asked how he could spare so large a portion of his time to public affairs. "I consider", he said, "that men like me are amply paid in advance for anything they can do for their country."

To those who enjoy the still greater advantages of being born in a "golden mediocrity," alike removed from the temptation attending great wealth and great poverty, I would preach the necessity of clearing their minds of snobbery and prejudice. Learn to judge men as they are, apart from the accident of birth and riches. A menial servant who does his duty is more worthy of respect than the highest noble who neglects it.

Civilization, as it advances, continually broadens the circle of our perception and sympathies. From the family they extend to the community in which we are born. And with Mookerjee, pride of race was nearly as strong as pride of birth. The former is a quality of which I would fain see a good deal more in Indo-Aryans. It is at the root of all national greatness. Without it the consummation of the Congress's wildest dream would bring only bitter disappointment. How can men be expected to work out their own political salvation when they are constantly having it drilled into them that they are a people devoid of truth, honesty and courage---when they meekly acquiesce in the reproach, and do nothing to redeem it? Remember, that you are the descendants of a conquering race which once gave laws and science to the eastern world: and strive to live up to the high standard attained by your ancestors. Personal and national self respect have enabled the inhabitants of a small group of islands in the icy North to overspread the world. I have long endeavoured to foster this feeling in Bengalis, and my forthcoming book will be a protest against the impeachment of an entire people by Lord Macaulay. It is with this object that I have consistently encouraged the indigenous drama. There is nothing which tends more to ennobling thoughts, or removes the soul more completely from the sordid surroundings of daily life than the taking part, either as actors or spectators, in plays based on national history and traditions. No education is more effective or more easily acquired. The greatness of England at the commencement of this century was in no small measure due to the devotion of the people to the magnificent historical dramas of Shakespeare. They sound as a clarion call to deeds of glory.

So much for the inherited influence, which did so much to shape Mookerjee's career. I will now pass to his early training.

Mankind is an epitome of nature, which we see eternally convulsed by the contending influences of good and evil. On searching the depths of our own hearts, each of us must be conscious of the truth of this remark. But we are all creatures of habit: and in early youth, while the mind is still plastic and impressionable, we may be trained into a habit of acting and thinking sanely. By constant vigilance a child may be taught to repress his inherited bias towards evil temper, untruthfulness or love of self, and acquire almost instinctively the opposite qualities. Children are not playthings but citizens in embryo. I have lived to see a complete revolution in their treatment. When I was a boy, the spirit of the Middle Ages still ruled in the nursery. Children were relegated to a distant part of the house and the society of menials. They entered their parents' presence on sufferance, as it were, and on condition of being "seen and not heard" as the saying ran. At very tender age they were sent to a boarding school where the rations and discipline were more than Spartan. Lord Albemarle when a child at Westminster school, awoke on a bitter winter's morning to find his bed covered with snow which had drifted in from the broken windows. My grandfather was also at Westminster and I remember his narrating how, detected in pilfering jam in a sixth form boy's study, he was solemnly tried and sentenced to be thrown out of the window. The height was fifty feet from the ground and a row of spiked palings awaited him below. And so the child was thrust into space. He clung desperately to the widow sill and one of his tyrants hammered his little hands with a dictionary to make him let go! Happily for him and me, a master was attracted by his piercing shrieks and intervened at the nick of time. The result of the stern discipline which prevailed in the nursery and school-room two generations back was that the weaklings were killed off: the sensitive crushed to semi-idiotcy: but a virile race survived whose exploits are the brightest page in our annals.

In the present day the pendulum has swung in the opposite direction: childhood is ideally happy: and the little ones are perpetually in the society of the elders. I cannot but think that this theory of education is as far removed from the true one as was the obsolete rigour. The capacity for enjoyment, for forming new impression is now exhausted before the teens are reached: and priggery is evolved as well as that ultra refinement which becomes morbid and leads to anti-social excesses. The effect on the physical nature of indulgence and pampering is equally far-reaching. To this cause is due the excessive mortality from enteric fever amongst those who are entering active life. Sir W. Hunter once remarked to me, "The present generation of Englishmen is not great because they have never learnt to suffer."

In Bengal the treatment of children has always been akin to that which now dominates Europe. And in the case of an only child it is the strongest character alone that emerges unscathed from the ordeal. How rarely have parents the moral courage to punish a child for glaring disobedience: to withhold indulgences which their own common sense tells them are injurious. It is told of Charles James Fox that when a boy, his father, the first Lord Holland, showed him a beautiful gold repeater watch of rare and costly workmanship. "Father," said the lad, after listening entranced to the melodious chimes rung out by the mechanism, "I should so like to smash that watch!" "Should you, my dear?" said Lord Holland. "Then smash it by all means!" And so the future statesman flung the unoffending watch on the marble floor and trampled it under foot with ferocious glee. That Fox's genius was dimmed by degrading vices and that he sank into the grave ere his prime had been passed, was due to this criminal indulgence. How many moral wrecks do we see around us from the same cause! In Mookerjee's case that waywardness which marred his highest effort and led him to mistake his true vocation in life till he was well on in middle age, was due to the defective home influences. But if Mookerjee was unfortunate in this respect, the disadvantage was almost neutralized by his happy school career. At the Oriental Seminary he came in contact with lads more advanced than himself and devoted to literature for its own sake, and not as a key to worldly position. I have often regarded the curriculum of the class room as a sort of scaffolding round a building in course of erection. The scaffolding enables the structure to assimilate and make the best use of materials brought to it; but it does not support nor is it a part of that which it surrounds. The most precious and enduring lessons which a youth can learn are those which he acquires outside the walls of his school and education should be to a great extent cooperative. Mookerjee's taste for letters was formed by associating with school fellows who had already acquired one: and his great intellectual gifts enabled him to outstrip them. Had he enjoyed the advantages which this Society offers, depend upon it his progress would have been still more rapid. Logic, precision, eloquence, all can be gained insensibly by discussions in hours of freedom: and in no other way. An influence still more benign was shed on him by the Principal of his next school---the Metropolitan College. It is touching to find in his letters written forty years afterwards, repeated references to the obligations he was under to this teacher of genius. He calls him his "guru" and acknowledges that his passionate love of poetry, his keen appreciation of style in prose were due to Captain Richardson's informal lectures on English literature delivered to all his pupils who cared to attend them at his home out of school hours.

I have already asked you to observe the radical changes which a generation has effected in the surroundings of childhood. An equally marked revolution has taken place in the relations between teachers and pupils. In times within my memory there was a great gulf separating the two classes. Each regarded the other with suspicion unredeemed by sympathy. Masters considered boys as young savages to be avoided outside the class-room; and boys retaliated by treating masters as if they were their natural enemies.

These strained relations, to put it mildly, were due to the theory on which education was based—an unsparing use of the rod. Dr. Keate of Eton was a typical headmaster of the last age. A brilliant scholar and an admirable teacher for lads of exceptional parts, inflexibly just, he was also inflexibly severe. On one occasion, when he discovered that a school mutiny was brewing, he had sixty boys dragged from their beds on a winter's night, and administered to each in succession a hearty flogging. Nor was this severity confined to those of tender years. Young men who had actually obtained His Majesty's commission were thus ignominiously punished. Many a young spirit was broken by this brutal severity. Charles Reade, Captain Marryatt, the novelists, and a host of others bear testimony to the fact that the cruel discipline of their school days cast a shadow on their whole career. It is to Dr. Arnold, the Headmaster of Rugby school, that boys of the present day owe the lifting of the shadow which darkened their grand-fathers' early lives. He was a man of genius with the exquisite sympathy which genius alone can give. These qualities prompted him to step down from the pedestal of the schoolmaster, to treat boys as reasonable beings with a sense of honour, and to seek their friendship. His overtures were at first received with suspicion, so accustomed were his pupils to the opposite theory of education. But perfect love finally cast out fear: and Arnold not only lives in the hearts of his old boys, but he profoundly influenced the whole scholastic system of England. Happy are his imitators, and thank God, they are many! There are no friends so delightful as the young Napoleon the First told a court lady that, in his experience, we begin life with a roseate veil over our eyes and, that, as years went on, it grew darker and darker. The great Captain's own career is an instance of the truth of this remark. We all set out with generous impulses, with optimistic views of men and things, and end our journey disappointed, disillusionised and fortunate if we are not soured by the trials and buffeting we undergo. There is no surer preservative against the selfishness and cynicism of middle age than association with minds yet unspoiled and open to noble sentiments.

There was a fatal defect in Mookerjee's training, however. It was one-sided, contemplating only a stimulus to the mental faculties and neglectful of the "casket of the soul." Education, says Milton, should fit a man to play his part successfully in war as well as peace. His thews and sinews must be hardened, and his physical courage developed by out-door games and the assiduous exercises of the gymnasium. If the Greeks have given the world almost every thing that we have worth possessing, it is because their education was conducted on broad and scientific lines. A perception of this fact appears to have entered the mind of our modern pedagogues, leading them to encourage sports by every means in their power. But with our national proclivity towards excess in all we attempt this devotion to cricket, football, rowing, &c., is in danger of being overdone. Play, says Herbert Spencer, is a redundance of faculties given us for the support of the organism. And so exuberant are these faculties that severe watchfulness alone can keep them within due bounds and prevent what should be a relaxation becoming the main business of life. Why are Germans slowly ousting Englishmen from many markets of the world? Because their youth does not spend morn to dewy eve in tennis, golf or cricket, but works persistently with an eye to the main chance. This swing of the pendulum towards athletics is another of the silent revolutions which our generation has seen in matters scholastic. In Bengal, fifty years ago, such things as games or manly sports were confined to the English population, and the most that was tolerated in native schools was *dandiyah*, a sort of rudimentary cricket. Mookerjee's leisure was spent in assiduous study, omnivorous reading and discussing knotty points in literature with his school fellows. Thus sedentary habits were formed and muscular and organic degeneration set in at an early period of his life. He was always a weakling, subject to severe illness, and he died long before entering the confines of old age. His fate was shared by countless others of his and the succeeding generation. For, it is only within the last few years that Bengali school and College students have been inoculated with a healthy bias towards sports. I regard it an era of the most hopeful signs of the times, this keen interest in cricket and football which I see on all sides. No important match fails to attract a dense throng of spectators of the student class, and it is pleasant to note the eagerness with which they watch the varying fortunes of the mimic war. I sincerely trust that the Marcus Square Playground which Young Calcutta owes mainly to the far-seeing sympathy of your founder and patron, His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, will include a well-equipped gymnasium amongst its attractions. If systematic drill formed a part of every school's curriculum and the cost of a cricket and football outfit were deemed as legitimate a charge on its funds, as blackboards and maps, we should soon see the reproach of effeminacy removed from the inhabitants of this Province. The brain must be nourished with healthy blood; sinews developed by constant use, and courage sustained by games of strength. I am persuaded that studies would not suffer from the new departure. There is nothing so destructive to all the powers of body and mind as the habits engendered by "loafing" during hours of recreation.

Well, I have carried my hero through the most critical part of his life and shown him to have been but imperfectly equipped for the coming struggle. He had now before him the all important question of the election of a career; and as it is one which must be perplexing the majority of you at this moment, I will devote the short remainder of my lecture to discussing it.

What shall we do with our sons? is the fathers' exceeding great and bitter cry throughout the civilized world. The operation of the law first enunciated by Malthus that population tends to outstrip the means of subsistence has produced a congestion in all professions open to a youth who has received a sound general education. Here the field of choice is even more limited than in the countries of the west. Take England for instance. A *pater familias* in that happy land can weigh the chances of success for his young hopeful presented by the "liberal professions," as they are still called, namely, the Army, Navy, Church, Law and Medicine. He can make his son an architect, a civil engineer dealing with the mechanical, marine or electric branch. Commerce offers a score of avenues to success in life. He can train the boy as an artist or an actor or journalist. Lastly, and it is a bad last, in his estimation, there is the Civil Service of the Crown. In Bengal, for various reasons which I cannot well enter into here, the field of choice was and still is, much more restricted. It is practically narrowed down to the legal profession, medicine, commerce and the civil service of the state. As regards the first, access to the so called higher branch is barred, in the case of orthodox Hindus, by the necessity of crossing the Black Water and living for years amongst *mlechchas* on forbidden food, involving the loss of caste and the degrading ceremony of *prayaschitta*. Cynics declare that impudence is the best passport to success as a barrister, and cunning smooths the upward path in the solicitors' calling. I am not one of those who level cheap sarcasm at an indispensable, and if properly exercised, an honourable calling. This kind of thing, for instance, from a home paper:—"On Saturday last, a shark was cast ashore at Plymouth. The attorneys of the town wept over him and buried him with all the honour due to a member of their profession!" The great drawbacks in the case of attorneys are the interminable period of probation and the heavy cost attending it, as well as the fact that there are at least twice as many solicitors in Calcutta as the volume of litigation really demands.

This criticism applies with at least equal force to the pleaders' profession. There is not a bar library in the Province, and hardly a sub-divisional headquarters that does not contain a crowd of briefless ones, soured by the heart sickness of deferred hope. Thus, in many cases, when success comes, the mind has lost its elasticity and enthusiasm and is equally unfitted to make the best of opportunity or to enjoy its task. Medicine I regard as a still nobler profession, but here special aptitudes and a peculiar physical formation are necessary. In India all medical men must be what are known at home as "general practitioners" equally adept at composing a prescription and wielding the lancet. Now the physician's science has not advanced greatly since the days of Hippocrates. His pharmacopœia is infinitely wider and great improvements have been introduced of late years in the methods of administering drugs; but treatment is still more or less empiric and the causation of disease is still wrapped in mystery. It is far otherwise with the surgeon's craft; and those whose professional enthusiasm has enabled them to surmount the horrors of the dissecting room and the operating amphitheatre are happy in belonging to a profession which gratifies the artistic sense of him who practises it, while it lessens the volume of human misery. But for the majority of men the ordeal is too severe and medicine as a profession is not likely to be ever crowded.

Commerce requires capital, which is by no means abundant in the middle and upper middle classes. The competition of European (not necessarily English) traders is daily growing keener and profits are proportionately reduced. Nor is money alone the sinew of war in the career. Judgment is called for, calmness, knowledge of men and that which the French call *flair*, an instinct which leads its happy possessor to distinguish between good and bad "business" with unerring accuracy. The more I see of the world the more convinced I am that what is commonly called "luck" has an immense influence on our career. How often do we see very ordinary people, of whom it is said that everything they touch turns to gold! On the other hand, there is a class which seems to be persecuted by an evil destiny. The first Baron Rothschild, who must be admitted to have been a good judge, said, "whatever you do, have no concern with an unlucky man. I know many, gifted with every quality which ought to ensure success, who are walking about London with stockings showing through their boots!" In Mookerjee's time a far larger proportion of Indians embarked on mercantile career than we see at present, for

openings were more abundant and people had not been killed by the telegraph. Commerce, fifty years ago, was still conducted in the leisurely and aristocratic fashion which the Honourable Company had given it. Times have changed, and not wholly for the better.

There remains the service of the State: which is the great aim and object of our youth. Here, the field has widened enormously within the last forty years. I have unearthed, amidst the mountain of rubbish which encumbered my office, a copy of Thacker's Directory for 1855, the very year in which my subject was meditating a plunge into active life. I find that there were only 139 natives then employed under the Bengal Government in posts which we should now call "gazetted," and the pay in very many of them was under 100 per mensem. I have not had time to wade through the last issue of the Civil List, or to extract figures for comparisons; but I should say roughly that at least ten times as many appointments of analogous grades are now held by Indians.

This is a subject on which I may speak with the assurance of intimate knowledge. I have been for nearly a quarter of a century in the service of the Crown and my Indian career is drawing to a close. Looking back on it I may honestly say that with many shortcomings it has the approval of my own conscience, which is more to be desired than that of all the world besides. I have been privileged to do great good to those entrusted to my care. Having no ambition connected with office; in spite of many disillusions and disappointments, I am not a disappointed man. It is only right that I should state these facts, in order that you may not be under the impression that the remarks I am about to make refer to myself.

In deciding whether you will seek to serve the state, you must ponder well on the personal equation. Now, as the old Romans taught us, civilized man is a double entity. There is the man himself with his habits, tastes and passions, and there is his legal and social garb which they called *persona* and we should loosely translate as his antecedents. If you are proud, sensitive and passionate, without unusual power of self control, shun public service, for many and bitter will be the shocks to your *amour propre* and your spirit may be crushed for life. If you have brains and energy beyond the common herd, beware of letting them shine too brightly. The mediocre, who form the bulk of any community, resent the possession of either as an insult to themselves. You will thus avoid making enemies, even if you make no friends: though Lavater says that he who goes through life without making a friend or foe is a very poor creature. But, supposing your mental hide is tough as the rhinoceros's, that your disposition is phlegmatic, your methods cautious in the extreme, you must still pause before seeking to serve your country. For, to succeed, you must either have what Philistines call "interest," or join a mutual admiration clique. The first is vastly more important than most people suppose, and ere I leave India, I may be induced to make public some very curious instances of brilliant success due solely to this potent factor. If you have relatives or connections high in office, and ready, with the infinite family affection of Indians, to hold out a helping hand, then you begin life with the same advantages over a friendless lad as a swimmer with a cork belt has over him who trusts to his unaided muscles. The one is supported in spite of his shortcomings: the other beats the waves till he sinks exhausted.

Cliquism and "log rolling" are powerful aids to advancement: but they involve a sacrifice of one's self-respect and a weakening of one's principles: and men of the highest type prefer failure to success gained by such means. Amongst aids to success as a public servant, I may enumerate commanding talent *plus* opportunity. The one is useless without the other. Napoleon the Great must have turned his sword into a pruning-hook or died a half-pay officer but for the marvellous chances of the French Revolution. And it is equally certain that Napoleon would have been expelled with ignominy from any graded Civil Service. As I am not addressing an assemblage of intellectual giants, I will glide over this branch of my subject with precipitancy. Having thus enumerated the externals of an official career, I will conclude by stating its more salient effects on the individuals. In the first place, the constant sense of power strengthens the will and elevates the personality. Macaulay tells us that authority is as respectable in a constable as a sovereign: and servants of the Crown, whether engaged in dispensing justice or in executive functions, feel instinctively that they have behind them the majesty of law and the irresistible force of the empire. This is magnificent training, especially if one gets to look at all power as a trust for the public good. The receipt of a fairly adequate salary and the assurance that the evening of life will be spent in comfort and that that those dearer, perhaps, than life can never suffer want, removes the most carking of cares, those connected with money matters, and enables a man's best energies to be devoted to his duty. These are the chief advantages of office: the drawbacks are the confusion which it brings into one's morals. There is a vulgar proverb regarding the imperviousness of a corporation to the calls of conscience which I will not quote here: but which applies with equal force to public servants. Such develope in time an official conscience which is of the most elastic description: leading them to commit actions which are not in accord with the canons of honour, and in a private individual would be severely reprobated. Friendship is difficult, if not impossible, in a service where seniors are regarded as depriving one of earned promotion and unpleasantly conscious that juniors have much the same way of looking at things. I might mention the irksomeness of being tied down by hide-bound rules as to leave and the discomforts of the nomad life which an official leads. But time fails me: and I will conclude by expressing an earnest hope that you will all purchase Mookerjee's life, in order to see how far he succeeded in solving the difficult problems involved in the choice of a career.

SIZE AND STRENGTH NO DEFENCE.

HERE'S a point for you to think over: *Size and development have nothing to do with health.* A man may stand six feet two inches in his stockings and have the muscles of a prize fighter, and yet be an essentially unhealthy man. His frail-looking wife may be really the better of the couple; she may easily do more work, endure more exposure, bear more grief and worry, and outlive her big husband. There is a mystery in this that nobody can see into. It is a matter of vitality and organisation—not of dimensions.

Take, for example, the case of Mr. T. B. Staples, of Oakwood, Ont. He is a blacksmith; and I well remember how, when a boy I used to regard a blacksmith with awe and wonder on account of his strength. It was fearsome to see him swing those mighty hammers and pick up a heavy cartwheel as though it were a child's hoop. Yet I saw only in part and understood in part.

"Some twelve years ago," writes Mr. Staples, "I became aware that the dreaded disease, dyspepsia, had chosen me for one of its many victims. It is hardly necessary for me to try to describe all the different feelings that came over me. I have talked with many people suffering with dyspepsia, and they have all had about the same experience. Among the symptoms on which we agreed are the following: Bad taste in the mouth; fulness and deadness in the stomach after eating; getting no good from one's food; headache and palpitation of the heart; gas and sour fluids from the stomach; dizziness, especially when one rises up suddenly, or bends over his work; loss of appetite; pains in the chest and back, and the weakness that comes from not eating and digesting enough food to keep the body going. All these things I had; and you can imagine how bad they are for any one; particularly for a man who has got to earn his living by many hard work, as in my case.

"After I found out what was the matter with me I consulted a doctor at once, and began to take the medicine he gave me. I am sorry to say it did me little or no good. Although there is a common opinion that stomach troubles are not very serious, and never dangerous, I must say that is not my opinion. No man who suffers from dyspepsia as long as I did (about six years) will ever talk foolishly or lightly about it. Even the doctors admit it is the hardest of all diseases to keep track of, and to cure. If it does not kill a man right out of hand, *it spreads the shadow o death over him a.l the time he has it,* and takes all the laughter out of his days.

"Well, after the doctor's medicine failed, I kept on taking anything and everything that was recommended to me in hopes of relief. Yet none of them went to the root of the trouble. Sometimes I would feel a little better and sometimes worse, and that's the way things went on with me year after year, a dreary and miserable time. There's no money could hire me to live it over again.

"I was still in this condition when a friend, that I had been talking to about myself, advised me to try Mother Seigel's Curative Syrup. I didn't know the merits of the Syrup then, but being anxious to try anything that might help me, I bought a bottle from Messrs. Hogg Brothers, and commenced taking it. All I can say is, that I found relief immediately, and by continuing with it a short time, all my bad symptoms abated one by one, and I found myself completely rid of the dyspepsia. Since then I have never had a touch of the old complaint. If there is any other medicine in the world that is able to cure indigestion and dyspepsia as Mother Seigel's Syrup does it, why I have never heard of it. I have recommended the Syrup to other sufferers, and they have been more than pleased with it; and I write these hasty lines in hope the publication of them may come in the nick of time to be useful to others still. Yours very truly (Singned) Thos. B. Staples Oakwood, Ontario, February 25th, 1895."

We need add but few words to Mr. Staples' intelligent and manly letter. The disease which afflicted him attacks both sexes, all ages, and all classes and conditions of humanity. Neither youth nor strength is proof against it. It imitates other complaints, and so leads to fatal mistakes in treatment. If you are wise you will acquaint yourself with its character, as described in Mother Seigel's almanack, and know what to do in time of need.

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CONTEMPORARY POETRY.

THE SUNYASSEE.

BY JAMES HUTCHINSON.

CANTO FIRST.

(Continued from p 434.)

IV.

I, then, had little cleikly lore ;
For I was of the warrior caste,*
And never wished to have been more,
But for her sake ;—but that is past.
I say, I was a soldier born,
And I was one, in thought and deed,
And in the heyday of our morn,
The less we reck of caste, and creed ;
And so it was—a maid I loved !
Ah ! me, that I should live to tell
The secret tale of guilt, and hell ,
She was a Brahmin's child !†
And this alas ! the cause hath proved
Of all that's dark, and wild.

V.

Thou knowest, it is a deadly sin,
For those, who hold the Hindoo creed,
To love or wed, except within
The pale of caste, which is their meed
Such sin was mine, and mine such blame,
I saw but her, nor thought of shame ;
Yet sometimes, I have tried in vain,
To think less harshly of my guilt,
No blood of mine flowed, in her veins,
No blood of hers, by me was spilt,
'Tis idle all—she heard my vow,
She trusted,—and where is she now ?

VI.

I was an idle stripling then,
With scarce a down, on lip or chin,
But smooth of face, and strong of hand,
With arm well fitted for the brand ;
With free, and well expanded chest,
That tapered to my slender waist,
And limb as straight, and fleet, as ere,
Yet bore a hardy mountaineer ! *
Such was the outward tenement,
To the undying spirit lent,
And that was soft, yet proud and shy,
And ye might trace it to my eye ,
Tho' not one furrow marked by brow,
Of all, that there, thou seest now ;
But these are foolish things , which yet,
We cannot ;—if we would forget

VII

'Twas summer, and the drought was high,
The Fulgo's bed was bare, and dry,†
And often, I would seek the bank,
Still fresh, and green, of a lone tank
Where Palm, and Tamarind mingling, made,
From noontide heats, grateful shade ,

* The tribe of Khettree, Chittree, or Rajpoot, the caste inferior only to the Brahmins. The persons belonging to this caste are, by no means, remarkable for their learning, or literary attainments ; on the contrary, they more resemble those ancient Barons, and warriors of our own country, who despised learning, and could scarcely even sign their own names. To this day, in those parts of the east, in which I have resided, it is not customary for persons, of any rank, to sign their names to letters or other documents. To supply the deficiency, persons, of the sort, are all provided with a signet ring, which they wear on the finger , on all necessary occasions, this is dipt in ink, and applied to the document, in place of the sign manual. These seals generally bear the name of the person, and probably some affix, as Bahadoor, (similar to our Esquire), and the date, on which the seal was cut ; after the death of the person to whom it belonged, the seal is either destroyed, or taken good care of, by his heirs, for very obvious reasons.

† The laws or customs relating to marriage, among the Hindoos, vary considerably, in different castes. In some, marriages can only be contracted between parties of the same tribe or family, beyond of course certain degrees of consanguinity ; in others, the contracting parties must be of different tribes or family circles. In some of the lower castes, it is considered lawful for the husband of one sister to have children by another, and among some of the mountain tribes of Cuttack, I have been informed, that the custom adverted to, in scripture, of several brothers taking the same wife, in succession, prevails. In all the sacred writings of the Hindoos, and in the opinion of the people themselves, it is degrading and disgraceful in the males of the higher, to have connexion with the females of the lower castes ; but for a male of inferior caste to defile the daughter of a Brahmin,—is death ; it is sacrilege, and from having committed this deadly offence, spring the whole of the miseries, which afterwards assail the Sunyassee, in his progress through life.

* It may perhaps be thought, that I have been unnecessarily minute, in describing the personal appearance of the Sunyassee in his youth, but it is to be recollected, that when not dressed, for some particular occasion, the inhabitants of Bengal, and Hindoosthan go about, on the ordinary affairs of life, dressed as described in the text ; that is, rather more scantily, if any thing, than an English pugilist, when stript for a rencounter.

† The Fulgo is considered one of the most sacred rivers in India. It flows past Boodh'h-Gyah, within about two hundred yards of the great temple ; six miles lower down, it runs under the walls of the sacred city of Gyah itself. It is one of the objects of Hindoo adoration. In summer, its bed, which is nearly a mile broad opposite to Gyah, is often almost, if not entirely dry ; but in the rainy season, it is a bold, sweeping stream, and would be considered a fine river, in any country, in which large rivers are uncommon.

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Subscribers in the country are requested to remit by postal money orders, if possible, as the safest and most convenient medium, particularly as it ensures acknowledgment through the Department. No other receipt will be given, any other being unnecessary and likely to cause confusion.

There rose, with feathery le[illegible]
The Banian, with its [illegible]
And graceful Betel[illegible]
Till scarce a ray could p[illegible]
All these, in wildest order cl[illegible]
Around the bosom of the lake,
The tangled, and umbrageous br[illegible]
Seemed framework of some mirror vast,
Hiding it, from each vulgar guest,
Till scarce a ripple stirred its breast ;
While, in its glassy depths below,
The picture smiled, with mellowed glow.

VIII.

'Twas there, I loved to muse an hour,
And watch the damsels sport, and cower,
Amid the cool, and lucid tide,
That mellowed, what it could not hide,
The blushing charms, that half revealed,
Their clinging drapery ill concealed ;
And there, I saw my Lilloo first,
A day both blessed, and accurst,
Amid them all, she had no peer,
From rival, she had nought to fear ;
In all the charms of youth, she stood,
Just budding into womanhood—
Her stately form, I marked her well,
Was taper, as the cypress tree,
And graceful, as the wild gazelle,
And all, a woman's ought to be.

IX.

Like Gunga, rising from the wave,
Or Rhemba, from her ocean cave,†
With diamond dew-drops spangled o'er,
Tired of the bath, she sought the shore—
She wrung the moisture, from her hair,
That down her back, in ringlets, fell,
Hiding her shoulders, like a veil,
Then spread it, to the sunny air ;
The Saree's graceful folds put on,
And soon her simple toilet done,‡
She placed her pitcher, on her head.—
Her milk-white robe she closer drew,
Around her face ; then with a tread,
So light, so buoyant, and so true,
Might wake, in courtly dames, a sigh,
I saw her homeward hie !—§

(To be continued)

* All these are trees very common in India, more particularly in Bengal. The palm, the date, and the tamarind must be familiar even to the western reader ; the banian is the Ficus Religiosus of botanists. It grows to a great size, and from its branches sends down shoots, which again take root in the earth, thus giving the appearance of arcades, where the tree is very large, which however is not always, nor very often the case. It is held in great religious estimation, by the Hindoos. The betel or soparee is the tree, which produces the betel-nut ;—it is a species of palm, rises to a great height, and is exceedingly slender and graceful.

† Gunga, the native name of the Ganges ; in the present instance, it means the goddess, who presides over that sacred river. Rhemba is the ocean Venus of the Hindoos.

‡ The Saree is the dress of the Hindoo women. It consists of one piece of white cloth, just as it came from the hands of the weaver, about eight or ten yards long, and sometimes a little ornamented at the ends. It is wrapped two or three times round the waist so as to allow the lower border to hang down, a little below the calf of the leg ; a fold of it is taken from the waist, over the breast and head, which forms the only dress of the upper part of the body, among the ordinary classes. The Moosulmanee females wear paijamas or trowsers, and their toilet is altogether considerably more complicated.

§ The figures of the Hindoo women are light, and, though perhaps rather small, are symmetrically formed, and their walk is, at the same time, light, easy, buoyant, and stately ; in short, it is the very opposite of cloddish or inelastic. When they go to draw water, for domestic purposes, they carry the gurrah or pitcher, which is a globular vessel of brass or earthen-ware, contracted at the neck, and again widening at the mouth, either on the head or resting on one hip. These vessels are made of all sizes, but those, in general use, contain about half the quantity of an English bucket or less.

WEEKLY NOTES.

THE Civil Courts are at rest. The High Court, Original Side, closed for the annual vacation including Mahalaya, Durga, Lukshmi, and Kali Pujas, and Bhratriditya and Jagadhatri and Kartic Pujas, on and from Wednesday, the 11th of September. It will resume its sittings on Thursday, the 21st November. There is no continuous long holiday for the Insolvency Court. It will sit on Saturday, the 5th of October, and Saturday, the 30th of November. The office of the Court, Original Side, closed for general business from Wednesday, the 18th of September, to be re-opened on Monday, the 18th of November. General business does not seem to include taxing of bills, for the Registrar, as Taxing Officer, was working on the 19th September. One Judge will remain in town for urgent business and arrangements have been made for the attendance of such superior and subordinate officers as may be required for the purpose.

The general holidays, for all but the excepted offices, are from the 23rd September to the 4th October inclusive. The Public Debt Office, the Government Savings Bank, and the Government Account Department at the Bank of Bengal will be open for the transaction of business and for the receipt and payment of money on Government account on the 23rd, 24th and 30th September and 1st and 2nd October. The Paper Currency Office and the Comptroller-General's Office will also do business on the above dates. The Custom House will partially observe the holiday on the 25th, 26th, 27th and 28th September and 3rd and 4th October, when it will be open free of charge (on a day's notice being given) from 11 A. M. to 12 noon for entering or clearing vessels and for the use of bills of entry or shipping bills covering free goods from or to the same, the Treasury being closed. Mr. Skrine's book just published—"An Indian Journalist being the Life, Letters and Correspondence of Dr. Sambhu C Mookerjee" gives some unpublished private correspondence on the subject of the Long Holiday, in the year 1889 when it was decided to keep certain offices open. Colonel Ardagh, Private Secretary to the then Viceroy's letter (Sept.) to Dr. Mookerjee, who championed the movement for the closure of offices, explains why Lord Lansdowne gave his sanction to the curtailing of the Puja vacation, for which the Bengal Chamber of Commerce had agitated for years without success.

***

THIS week the English mail was delivered in Calcutta on Tuesday, and left it the next day. This change of the departure of the mail from Tuesday to Wednesday will continue for the present.

***

THE Law Member is spoken of as the next probable Chief Justice of the Bengal High Court.

***

SANTOO Mather, a leper of Watgunge, like many of his class, lived by begging. But his disease assuming a formidable shape he was obliged to keep home. To rid himself of his ailments, the more so as he was deprived of the only means of subsistence, he cut his throat with a knife to end his existence. The wound was not deep and he recovered under medical aid which was forthcoming. He was won back from death that he might be tried for attempting suicide. He was then adjudged Her Majesty's guest at the Alipore jail for two months, after which period he will be sent out to beg his bread, if able, or attempt another self-destruction.

***

THERE are three John Wilsons, two George Joachim Goschens, two William Abrahams, and two Robert Wallaces in the House of Commons. While the Goschens are father and son, the other gentlemen who are namesakes are quite unconnected with each other. One Abraham is a Welsh, the other an Irish, member. Both the Wallaces represent Scotch constituencies, and are English barristers. Mr. Robert Wallace, the member for one of the divisions of Edinburgh, is a Scotchman by birth and training, who held at one time a chair in Scotch University, but Mr. Robert Wallace, Q. C., the newly-elected member for Perth, is an Irishman by birth, antecedents, and education.

***

WE read :—

"Mr. Humphry Ward tells a good story of Huxley in one of his letters to the *New York Tribune*. Writing to a young kinswoman after he had been to Osborne to be sworn in as a member of the

Privy Council, Huxley said :—'I intended for your benefit, to have a good look at Her Majesty, but I could not because I found, to my great discomfiture, that Her Majesty was constantly looking at me.' And well she might for among the eminent lawyers, professional politicians, and broad-acred nobles who gathered around that sacred board, it is not to be supposed that she had so often seen a face so striking, or looked upon a man whose discoveries, thoughts, and words had made so deep a mark upon his time."

∴

MOULVI Abdus Salam, Deputy Magistrate of Howrah, has fined the proprietor of a Dispensary Rs. 5 for having sold an ounce of brandy to a customer. The facts have not been properly reported, so it does not appear whether the spirit was sold, under a medical prescription, for the use of a patient. The excise law being very sweeping, the Deputy may be technically right. But surely it is a hardship to punish small sales, by registered dispensaries, of unlicensed spirits, for purely medicinal purposes.

∴

THE following, bearing on the execution of the beautiful Charlotte Corday, the girl who despatched Marat to the other world, is going the round. Attempts have been made to discover the real motive that impelled her to the deed. At one time it was believed that she simply avenged the death of her lover who had been executed through Marat's accusation. The current theory is that it was her country's wrongs that urged her to the bloody act. We ought not to be so blind to the claims of morality and justice as to demand admiration for the girl, although it was a monster whose heart felt the point of her dagger. For all that, it is difficult to withhold pity from one who became an assassin from the highest of motives that can influence erring humanity.

"An Executioner's Diary.—On this day, Wednesday, July 17, first year of the one and indivisible Republic, I executed Charlotte Corday. On reaching her cell in the Conciergerie, we found her writing. She looked in my direction and asked me to wait. When she had finished, she took off her cap and told me to cut her hair. Since M. de la Barre, I had not seen courage equal to hers. We were in all six or seven men, whose profession was anything but softening, and yet she was less moved than we were. When her hair was cropped she gave part to the artist who had taken her portrait, and some to the jailor's wife. I gave her the red shirt which she arranged herself. As I prepared to pinion her, she requested to keep on her gloves because when she was arrested the cords were so tight that her skin was broken. I said she could if she liked but that I could do it without hurting her. She smiled, and saying, 'To be sure you ought to know how to do it,' held out her naked hands. There was thunder and rain when we reached the quays, but the crowd was thick. At a window of the Rue St. Honoré I saw Robespierre, Camille, and Danton. They looked attentively at the culprit. I myself often looked at her. Not on account of her personal beauty, great was that was ; but it seemed impossible that she could remain so calm and courageous. I said : 'You find the way long, I fear?' 'No matter,' replied she, 'We shall reach the scaffold sooner or later.' When we reached the Place de la Revolution, I tried to hide it from her by standing up. But she said : 'I have a right to be curious ; this is the first time I see it.' She ascended the steps nimbly. One of my men suddenly snatched away her neckerchief, and she stretched out on the weigh plank of her own accord. Although I was not ready, I thought it barbarous to prolong the poor girl's sufferings for an instant. I made a sign to my man, and he pulled the rope."—*Charles Henri Sanson's Diary.*

NOTES & LEADERETTES,

OUR OWN NEWS,

&

THE WEEK'S TELEGRAMS IN BRIEF, WITH OCCASIONAL COMMENTS.

THE heavy and continuous shipments of gold from New York to Europe are causing uneasiness in the American city. The Chairman of the Executive Committee of the American silver party has stated that if business continues to improve the silver question is dead. In New York this is regarded as an important utterance.

OWING to the temporary suspension of their labours in the Pamirs, consequent upon a disagreement between the Commissioners, the Russian Commissioner, M. Schweikovski, announced that he was returning to St. Petersburg. But the disagreement has been settled by reference to London and St. Petersburg. The latest information is that delimitation is complete and only awaits ratification. The *Turkestan Gazette* rebukes the *Novoe Vremya* for stirring up ill-feeling between the Russians and the British by publishing inaccurate reports.

FRANCE and Russia are willing to morally support Great Britain, but are decidedly reluctant to join in coercive measures to compel the Porte to accept the proposed Armenian reforms. The Powers, especially Great Britain, are dissatisfied with the Porte's concessions in Armenia. It is probable that further pressure will be brought to bear on the Porte. It is understood that Lord Salisbury intends to insist on the Viceroy and the other high officials who are answerable for the Kucheng massacre being brought to account. He will bring pressure to bear on China for this purpose.

MUCH electoral excitement has taken place at Limerick, where Mr. O'Keefe, an anti-Parnellite, has been elected member of Parliament in place of the dynamiter Daly, defeating Mr. Nolan, a Parnellite candidate, by eighty-seven votes. Rioting went on for five hours on Saturday, and fifty of the rioters were injured. The police made twenty arrests.

THE French Commercial Mission to China has sailed.

THE Russian Government have established a Consulate at Turfan, in Chinese Turkestan, and an escort of Cossacks will be attached to the Consulate.

CHOLERA has appeared at Tangier.

THE Lord Mayor of London was, on Sep. 15, entertained at luncheon by the Paris Municipal Council. The Marquis of Dufferin and Ava was present. Cordial toasts were drunk, and cordial speeches made.

THE Mandarins continue to obstruct the work of the Kucheng Commission. A rebellion has broken out on the borders of the Fokien Province. The officials have fled to Hengneng, leaving the district at the mercy of the insurgents. Troops are advancing to the district.

GERMANY is negociating with the Viceroy of Tientsin for the cession to Germany of a piece of land on the Peiho, similar to the English and French concessions.

GERMANY has decided to support the Russo-French measures to hasten the Japanese evacuation of the Liaotung Peninsula.

MR. W. R. Greene, M. P., has received a letter from Uganda, which states that Captain Lothaire shot one hundred of the late Mr. Stokes's followers because they refused to join him.

A SERIOUS Native rising is reported to have taken place in different parts of the Congo State even where the Belgians were hitherto strongest, and Captain Peltzer has been murdered by his own troops. King Leopold has instructed the officers of the Congo State never to execute any foreigners, but to send them to Boma, the seat of Government, for a proper trial.

THE King and Queen of Italy have arrived at Rome to attend the fêtes in commemoration of the twentieth return of the entry of the Italian troops into the city. Much national enthusiasm is being displayed.

THE Duke of Cambridge, speaking at Easingwold, on the 18th, affirmed that his successor would find the Army equal to the needs of the Empire. He thanked God for the existence of the Volunteer Force, and said that the country would be miserable if conscription was introduced.

THE Emperor of China has sanctioned the immediate building of a railway from Shanghai to Nanking.

AT Cairo, two Armenians strangled a Turkish soldier whom they overheard boasting of having tortured their relatives at Lasun. They have since been arrested.

PRINCE Lobanoff, Russian Minister for Foreign Affairs, who is at present staying in France, will attend officially the great review of troops at Mirecourt in the presence of President Faure. The French press regards this as a conclusive mark of the Franco-Russian alliance.

THE book of the month is "An Indian Journalist being the Life, Letters and Correspondence of Dr. Sambhu C. Mookerjee, late editor of *Reis and Rayyet*, Calcutta, by F. H. Skrine, I. C. S." It ought to gladden the hearts of all Bengalis, for it is the first instance in which a European member of the Indian Civil Service attempts, for noble purposes, a biography of one of their own race who never sought the service of Government, and enters a protest against the calumny by the heedless rhetorician, Lord Macaulay, of their national character. Educated Indians, well off in life, who were expected to behave better, have remarked What was Mookerjee that Skrine should grieve for him? To such his book is the reply. If they are prepared to lay out five rupees they will know better and be benefited. For only the dedicatory preface, the book, apart from its other merits, ought to find a place in every Bengali home. It will add a zest to the festivities of the season. May Durga shower her blessings on Mr. Skrine and his!

ORDERS have been passed to pay, on preaudit, the salaries for September, in the Government offices at Calcutta before the holidays, which commence from next week.

AT the next St. Andrew's Dinner, Sir Charles Elliott will be the chief guest.

THE *Indian Daily News* says:—

"Since Sir Antony MacDonnell went to rule at Allahabad, there have been hardly two possibilities as to the Belvedere succession, and the news from Simla that Sir Alexander Mackenzie is to be the next Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal is the mere statement of a foregone conclusion. That the question is definitely settled betimes, however, is matter for congratulation, if only in that it will calm the turbulent imagination of the native press, which loves nothing better than to run riot over what may be on the lap of the gods for Bengal. Sir Alexander has done conspicuously good work in Burmah, and will doubtless assume office in Bengal with the full knowledge that he takes up much more difficult and exacting duties. In Lady Mackenzie, Belvedere will have a charming and accomplished hostess."

They are all, all able men, conspicuous for good work, and their sweet consorts also are all, all charming. Of that there is no doubt. But why indulge in a needless fling at the native press? As a matter of fact, it is the Anglo-Indian press that is distinguished for its forecast of future appointments. To such an extent did the former *Friend of India* use to indulge in it that it was popularly said that the *Friend* had men to nominate for every post under the Government, from the Viceroy down to the Treasury peon or the Public Works duftry. Those capable of reading between the lines can understand that the paragraph in the *News* has its genesis in certain rumours, first voiced in Anglo-Indian circles, about the Belvedere succession, which have disturbed our contemporary's forecast as quietly settled by him long ago.

ADVERTING to the rumour about Mr. Cotton's filling the Chief Commissionership of the Central Provinces, the *Indian Daily News* remarks,—"We can hardly suppose that Lord Elgin would place the author of 'New India' in an independent charge, without serious reflection on the probable consequences, especially with so many far safer men available." If the authorship of "New India" were the only objection, we can assure our contemporary that it is not worth a minute's thought. Mr Cotton, notwithstanding his coquetting with educated Indians, his mystical worship of Humanity, and his Positivism, is as sympathetic as Sir A. P. MacDonnell with the people of this country. The veneer of liberalism to the contrary, it has always been known, so far as action is concerned and not profession, that the Hon'ble Mr. Cotton of the Bengal Council and the Secretariat is the same individual who, years ago, in the columns of the *Indian Observer*, spoke of the educated natives of India as "the untoward offspring of English folly."

IN reply to a correspondent who had enquired what books he generally took with him on his campaigns, Lord Wolsely is credited with having answered as follows:—

"A General has but very little time for reading—at least, I never can find time—when in the field. During the Mutiny and the China War I carried a Testament, and two volumes of Shakespeare that contained his best plays; and since then, when in the field, I have always carried

Book of Common Prayer,
Thomas à Kempis.
Soldier's Pocket Book.

—depending on a well-organised postal service to supply me weekly with plenty of newspapers.

The book that I like reading at odd moments is 'The Meditations of Marcus Aurelius.'

When I am going on any distant expedition for a lengthened time, I should add to those I have mentioned the following books:—

History: Creasy's Decisive Battles.
Plutarch's Lives.
Cæsar.
Voltaire's Charles XII.
Cæsar, by Froude.
Hume's England.

Fiction: Macaulay's History of England and his Essays."

The inclusion of Macaulay's "History of England" under the head of fiction, a contemporary remarks, is "distinctly hard on Macaulay." The fact is, Lord Wolsely is not singular in his opinion. Many persons believe that, notwithstanding their popularity, the volumes of Macaulay have not much historical value. Highly meritorious as the production is, Croker succeeded in pointing out its blemishes, many of which are, no doubt, serious. The biographer of Macaulay, his own nephew, while noticing the perfect furor of applause and admiration with which the work was greeted on all sides, brushes Croker aside as an insignificant assailant unworthy of serious notice. Those, however, whose acquaintance with Croker is at first hand, know how formidable an antagonist he was in the arena of literary controversy. No writer was more careful of his facts than Croker. His review of O'Meara's book charging Sir Hudson Low, the Governor of St. Helena, with having incited him to poison Napoleon in his exile, was a most brilliant performance. His review of Thiers historical works was scarcely less so. In spite of his critique in the *Edinburgh Review* on Croker's edition of Boswell, in which he charged Croker with numerous inaccuracies respecting names and dates, Macaulay, in one of his letters to his sister, owned the merits of the book he had publicly condemned. The fact is, the brilliant rhetoric of Macaulay has blinded many Indian students to the worth of Croker as a periodical writer. His review of Macaulay's History may be perused with delight and profit by every one. Considering the age at which Croker wrote that review, it was a marvel. He had been deprived of vision. He was assisted by an amanuensis in reading and making extracts from manuscripts in the British Museum. Despite all these disadvantages, Croker, as already said, pointed out many historical inaccuracies. His remarks, above all, on the mannerisms of Macaulay, were characterised by great humour. It was Croker who first pointed out that Macaulay's cavalry always came "pricking fast." They blunder also of Macaulay, that Croker pointed out regarding the account of Queen Elizabeth's address to her soldiers at Tilbury, was a serious one. For all that, it is nothing but eccentricity to class both the History and the Essays of Macaulay under Fiction.

DEAFNESS COMPLETELY CURED! Any person suffering from Deafness, Noises in the Head, &c., may learn of a new, simple treatment, which is proving very successful in completely curing cases of all kinds. Full particulars, including many unsolicited testimonials and newspaper press notices, will be sent post free on application. The system is, without doubt, the most successful ever brought before the public. Address, Aural Specialist, Albany Buildings, 39, Victoria Street, Westminster, London, S. W.

THE Viceroy, Lady Elgin, Ladies Christian and Veronica Bruce, with Surgeon-Colonel Franklin and two Aides-de-Camp, pass the Puja week at Nurkhanda.

PRIVATE Thomas Stewart, Highland Light Infantry, was executed at the Fyzabad jail on the 12th September. The prisoner, reports an Anglo-Indian contemporary, bore himself with fortitude, singing as he was marched to the scaffold "Just as I am, without one plea." It also publishes the following letter to shew that Stewart while maintaining to the last that he had no intention to commit murder admitted the justice of the sentence passed on him.

"Corporal MacMath, I have asked Mr. Elliott to write you these few lines to tell you how very sorry I am for hurting you. You never did me any wrong. I fired my rifle off without meaning to kill or hurt any one, and I did it when in drink. I know no one will believe this, but it is the truth. I know I deserve to die for what I have done. I deserve no pity from any one, and don't look for it. I look only to God, against whom I have most sinned. I feel He has forgiven me. I am ready to die, but I want to see you very much before I am executed, to tell you how sorry I am for hurting you, and get your forgiveness."

It is a touching letter, whatever the man in whose name it is given. This is not the first letter of the kind. Other Privates have spoken to the same tune.

A WILD rumour has been for sometime afloat in town that Moulvi Abdul Jabbar Khan Bahadur, C. I. E., who had been with his family, on a pilgrimage, to Mecca, was in custody and, some went so far, that he was killed. On the 7th he wrote from Aden to say that he was safe and was on his homeward voyage per S. S. *Sultan*. It took him 24 days from Mecca to Medina and from Medina to Mecca on camel's back under most trying circumstances. Last Thursday he left Colombo. The friends of the Moulvi will be glad to hear that he is expected in Calcutta in the middle of next week. Arrangements will be made to welcome him back at the Koila Ghat.

THE Mahomedan Literary Society of Calcutta, being asked by the Government of Bengal for an expression of their opinion, submitted an earnest protest against the provisions of the Pilgrim Ships Bill. They sent up also their President the Hon'ble Prince Sir Jahan Kadar Muza Bhadur to represent the views of the Mahomedan community at the Legislative Council. The Prince at first took up his quarters at Mayville, but it being too high up the hills, the Viceroy offered him the Villa of Armsdell.

RAI Annada Proshad Ghose Bahader, first Personal Assistant to the Commissioner of the Presidency Division, retires from service this day, at the age of 61 years. He began, in the year 1856, as a Daroga in the old Police, on Rs. 50 per mensem. In seven years, he rose to be Court Inspector at Midnapur. In 1864, he was drafted from active service to the clerical, being appointed head clerk and sheristadar at the Midnapur Magistracy. His next appointment, three years after, was as Assessor under the License Tax Act. While so employed, he appeared at the first competitive Examination for deputy magistracy held in 1868, during the administration of Sir William Grey. Having passed, he was admitted to the Subordinate Executive Service on the 21st July, 1868. By May, next year, after departmental examinations, he was confirmed in that service. He was soon promoted to the fifth grade over the heads of many of his compeers. His rise was so rapid that the late member of the Board of Revenue, the Hon'ble Mr. Reynolds, then Collector, noticed the matter thus:—"Accept my congratulations upon your well-deserved promotion to the fifth grade. I do not think I remember any member of your service, who has risen so rapidly, as you have."

Down to the year 1870, we find him employed in the districts of Hooghly and Howrah. He was then transferred to the Orissa Division, where he made his mark and completed the intricate and long-pending settlement of the Town Khasmahal to the satisfaction of the Collector and the Commissioner. In 1874, he was deputed on special duty in connection with the Behar Famine. Mr. Ravenshaw, the then Commissioner of the Orissa Division, was unwilling to part with him. He wrote: "I am exceedingly sorry to lose Babu Annada Proshad, who is an exceptionally good officer, and who has now acquired very considerable experience in Orissa, and is by cast and temper peculiarly well fitted for duty in the Division. I will deem it a favour, if, when Babu Annada Proshad is no longer required for special duty, he may be allowed to resume his work in Cuttak." After the Famine operations closed, he was appointed officiating Personal Assistant to the Commissioner of the Orissa Division. Confirmed in that post in 1881, he continued as such in three Divisions—Orissa, Burdwan and the Presidency till the last, except for two brief intervals, for 14 years. Commencing with Rs. 50, he ends with Rs. 800 in the first grade of the service, retiring with a well-earned pension and the distinction of Rai Bhadoor. In his long official career of forty years, he was never found wanting in duty, and though not brilliant was always highly useful. He had five extensions of service and the last Commissioner to whom he was Assistant had strongly recommended him for another. Like Mr. Westmacott, Mr. Beames too had a great liking for the Baboo.

THE following extracts, from an advance proof from Pandit Abinash Chandra Kaviratna's *Charaka*, bearing on the characteristics of quacks, will be read with interest. It would seem that they, in all ages and climes, present the same features.

"They that are possessed of opposite qualifications are companions of disease and destroyers of Life. These men, wearing the robes of physicians, are the thorns of the world. Behaving after the manner of those whom they imitate, those persons, through the heedlessness of kings, move about in all countries.

This is their special indication, *viz*, clad in the robes of physicians and indulging in self-praise, they walk along the public streets, in expectation of calls.

"When they hear of anybody's illness, they run towards his neighbourhood, and in the hearing of that person's friends loudly proclaim their own skill and accomplishments as physicians.

These men frequently proclaim the shortcomings of the person whose treatment they take up.

They wish to win over the friends of the ailing person by doing what would gladden them, by stories and conversation, and various small services.

They proclaim their own disposition to be pleased with a very little remuneration.

Obtaining a case for treatment, they constantly keep their eye on all things, desirous of concealing their ignorance by dexterity.

Unable to alleviate the disease, they accuse the patient as unequipt with desirable necessaries, as disposed to transgress the directions of the physician, and as having no control over his inclinations.

Beholding that the last stage has come, they fly away, leaving the patient's presence and repairing to some other place. If opening to be present in assemblies of ignorant or common men, they proclaim their own skill in treating disease, betraying their ignorance the while.

Manifesting their own ignorance, they censure the knowledge and wisdom of physicians that are truly wise.

Beholding an assembly of men that are learned and wise, they avoid it from a distance, like travellers avoiding a wilderness where there is cause of fear.

If anybody be ever cured, by these physicians, of any light disease that cure is always referred to by them in cases where the treatment that effected the cure is inapplicable or where an altogether different kind of treatment is required.

They do not desire to consult any one (in respect of anything connected with the medical scriptures). Nor do they desire to be consulted by any one.

They fear any one who wishes to consult them as one fears death itself. No one knows who their preceptor is, or who their disciple, or who their fellow-student.

(Here are some verses.)

Those men who, wearing the garb of physicians, seek to gratify afflicted persons like fowlers seeking to capture birds in the woods by having recourse to their nets or springes,—those men who are unendued with scriptures, experience, (knowledge of) curative operations, time, measure, and place, should be avoided. They walk on the earth like the followers (messengers) of Death.

A wise patient should always avoid those foolish men with a show of learning who, for earning their sustenance, pretend to the honour of being physicians. They are like snakes subsisting on air."

TO the above, the translator adds the following interesting notes "It is evident that the Rishi was for suppressing quacks by penal legislation. Unfortunately, the question is not easy of solution as to who are quacks. Under most Governments, Homœopathy is still regarded as a form of quackery. In India, under British rule, the system propounded by the Rishi himself, is regarded as quackery. Kavirajes are classed in State-returns as *herbalists*;—a fine instance of the appreciation in which the Hindu system of medicine is held by the rulers of the country! The fact is impossible of disproof that thousands of chronic cases, given up by European physicians as hopeless, are cured by these despised herbalists. Dysentery, when it attacks a European, generally proves fatal in India. Yet those Europeans who place themselves under Kavirajes, get themselves cured, in no time, of this formidable disease.

"It would be curious to ascertain what the dress was of physicians in ancient India. To this day, many physicians, who have no calls, pass and repass along the public thoroughfares in their good and handsome carriages drawn by excellent steeds, to create the impression that their practice keeps them engaged for the whole day."

When success does not attend their labours, nothing is more common for incompetent physicians than to accuse the patient of disobedience and other faults. Then, again, the comparison between quacks and snakes which subsist on air, is a very happy one, for quacks, although they have ostensible practice, and, therefore, income, succeed in keeping up appearances. Sometimes, having made money by trade or in other ways, they invest it in lofty building, for creating the impression that their practice is very large and lucrative. In large towns where next-door neighbours do not know each other, this often succeeds in extending the practice of incompetent physicians. The inability to name who their preceptor and fellow-students are forms another characteristic of quacks. When pressed, they name sometimes this university and sometimes that as their *alma mater*, although the records of the institution afford no trace of their names.

REIS & RAYYET.

Saturday, September 21, 1895.

THE PILGRIM SHIPS BILL,

AN ANTICIPATORY MEASURE.

THE Pilgrim Ships Bill, as was to be expected, has created considerable commotion among Mahomedans. We have already commented on it. Notwithstanding all that has been said in various quarters that it is a measure in the right direction and that it was not intended to annoy the religious, the belief still prevails that it will interfere with *Haj* and that the poor pious Mahomedan will find his way to the holy shrines of Mecca practically closed to him. The Bill has been introduced not because the Government of India see any necessity for it, but because France believes that outbreak of cholera in Europe is due to the annual pilgrimage of the Faithful. This is clear from the speech of Sir Alexander Mackenzie, the member in charge of the Bill. The hands of the Government of India are completely tied. We have here another example of Legislation by Mandate. The Government of India are almost sure that the pilgrimage of the Indian Mahomedans to the Hedjaz has nothing whatever to do with the spread of the disease in Europe. They emphatically declare that cholera travels by way of Russia and not through Arabia and Egypt. But all that goes for nothing. Great Britain has entered into a convention with the Continental Powers and to give validity to it the Pilgrim Ships Bill must be passed and hundreds of Mahomedans hindered in an act which they regard as the key to heaven. As will be explained afterwards more than two-thirds of the pilgrims will have difficulty in performing hereafter the Haj, which even the most sceptical Moslem is not prepared to ignore.

It is impossible for Europeans to realize the intensity of religious feeling of an Asiatic. In spite of the civilization which is growing around him, an orthodox Hindu or Mahomedan blindly sticks to the outward forms of his faith. The Mahomedan in particular zealously guards them. He has still the old faith—senseless you may call it but its existence is a fact which to ignore would be a grave mistake. Educate the people if you will, educate them in science and sanitation, but it is impolitic to press upon them a measure which is sure to be misunderstood and misinterpreted by ignorant Mahomedans.

Another strange fact in connection with this piece of legislation is that the Government of India were not properly represented in the conference held at Paris, of which it is the outcome. They deputed Surgeon-General J. M. Cunningham, on the understanding that matters regarding the sanitation of only the Red Sea ports were to be discussed. They had no knowledge whatever that any question about Indian pilgrims would be raised. According to what has been said by Sir Alexander Mackenzie in the opening speech, had they known it they would have sent some other gentleman better qualified to deal with the political aspect of the question than a mere professional. But whether they knew it or not, they must swallow the bitter pill. On June 7, 1894 the Secretary of State sent them a copy of the Convention and ordered them to at once change the law according to its terms. The Secretary of State wills it, and it must be done.

Criticism on the detaiis of the Bill is obviously useless. The Bill was matured in London, if not in Paris, and is going through a mere routine form in the Supreme Council. Even if the Mahomedans were far more enlightened than what they are and the whole country had cried out against the proposed legislation, it would have been impossible for the Government to yield to public opinion. The English Government has entered into a contract with the other European Powers, which the entire strength of the Government of India cannot shake off. But all the same the attitude of the British Government is hardly explicable. It accepts the resolutions of the conference and thereby pleases France no doubt but at the risk of displeasing, nay wounding the feelings of millions of its own subjects.

Though any examination of the details will be unavailing, it may be of use in pointing out the radical changes introduced by the measure The most important sections are 4, 18 and 27. Section 4 defines pilgrims and includes in the term all persons of whatever age. Section 18 empowers the Governor-General in Council to prescribe the number of superficial and cubic feet to be allotted to each pilgrim and by executive order Government intend to fix it at 16 sq. ft. According to the existing Act it is only 9 sq. ft. There is another important innovation in the section which requires that the upper deck of a vessel should be reserved gratuitously for passengers. The effect of these two sections is obvious enough. The ship agents are not going to allow themselves to suffer by this legislation. If the legislature require an entire ship to be reserved for a few men, the ship-owners would be glad to comply with this demand, but they would, to be sure, exact as much from the few as they did before from many. With a change of 16 to 9 feet, the entire upper deck not counting as legal space, all children counting as full pilgrims and with hospital accommodation of 5 per cent. of the pilgrims on board at the rate of 32 sq. ft., per head, they must considerably enhance the fares. And what does this little fact signify? It means that two-thirds of the pilgrims would be left at Bombay and thence return to their homes miserable and wretched. "Kill us on board," they would cry, "but allow us to embark. We would reach Paradise." Section 27 of the Bill empowers a medical officer on suspicion of a man's having been on attendance on or in contact with a cholera-striken person to forbid his

embarkation. The discretionary power hereby vested is too great and may on occasions be arbitrarily used. It is not improbable that an enthusiastic medical officer may interpret contact in such a way as to exclude hundreds of healthy devotees.

Since the above was in type Sir Alexander Mackenzie last Thursday presented the report of the Select Committee on the Bill. We take the following telegraphic summary from the *Englishman* :—

"Sir Alexander Mackenzie, in introducing the report of the Select Committee on the Pilgrim Ships Bill, made a long speech. He said that full reports had been received from Bengal and Bombay, and memorials from numerous Mahomedan associations and individuals. Some said that the speaker had put forward suggestions which were impossible to accept, and show an entire want of appreciation of the position the British Government occupies in relation to the other Powers of Europe and Turkish Government in the Hedjaz. And while some denounce the measure as an interference with religious liberty, others were remarkable for their clear grip of the situation, and the practical common sense they bring to bear on the Bill and its rules. Some, indeed, give a hearty welcome to legislation as calculated to mitigate materially the sufferings of the pilgrims, and scout the idea that it interferes with their faith. Sir A. Mackenzie then quoted various opinions touching on the attitude of Government towards the Paris Convention. He could absolutely deny the truth of the postulate that cholera is imported into the Hedjaz by Indian pilgrims, but there was no disputing the fact that a large number of pauper pilgrims fill the Hedjaz with a population who fall easy victims to the disease there engendered. We cannot force Turkey to treat Indian pilgrims in an exceptional manner. They must submit to Turkish rule as modified by international agreement, and all that Government can do is to secure all reasonable protection and concessions. Sir Alexander Mackenzie alluded at length to the vexed question on the probability of increased cost of passage, the matter of deck space and sanitary taxes, and concluded an excellent speech as follows :—

'The Council will perceive that the Bill on becoming an Act is not to come into force at once, but on such a day as the Governor-General may appoint. This will enable Government to recast its rules, which will not now be materially altered. On the important question of 'tween deck space and hospital accommodation, after due consideration of the suggestions and criticisms of the authorities who have reported on them, no one can, I think, object to the Bill, as it now stands. It is practically an enabling measure, leaving over details as to rules, in framing which Government will do its best to meet the reasonable requirements of its Mahomedan subjects. For the rest the Bill embodies valuable safeguards and is an undoubted boon for intending pilgrims, the necessity of which is admitted, and which would have been desirable had the Paris Convention never been devised I hope the Council will see no reason why it should not be passed into law at the next meeting.'

Prince Jehan Kadir made a very able speech, in the course of which he said :—'We are grateful to the sanitary experts of the West for the interest taken in the welfare of pilgrims to the Hedjaz, but would wish that that interest were less feverish and better informed. I would respectfully suggest that representations be made to the Secretary of State for modifications to be adopted whereby the discontent and dissatisfaction of the Mahomedans at some of the present conditions of the Bill may be allayed.' The speaker alluded to the universal opinion that medical examination before embarkation of pardanashins should be conducted by women, and expressed satisfaction that Sir A. Makenzie was of opinion that a sanitary tax should not be levied in Bombay. In regard to the definition of "passenger" and the proposal to extend the definition to every Mahomedan passenger of whatever age, he found it impossible to approve of it, and rejoiced that the provision was to remain in abeyance for the present. Regarding the increase in the amount of between deck space quoted by the Bengal Chamber of Commerce, he was heartily glad that the law would remain on the present footing. Finally he argued that the employment of Mahomedan cooks and watermen proposed by Sir A. Mackenzie be made compulsory on pilgrim ships, and concluded by saying that he felt it his duty to draw attention to the very grave effect the enactment of the Bill as originally proposed was calculated to produce on the poorer members of the Mahomedan community, stating emphatically that it directly conveyed the impression to the ignorant classes that Government intended to operate adversely to the religious duty which induced pilgrims to visit the Hedjaz. Any increase in the cost of the journey was a most serious matter, and he requested the Government to see that such misapprehensions were not revived, and that this aspect of the case be submitted to the Secretary of State.

Dr. Lethbridge made an exhaustive and highly important speech on the Bill. He said that the question was dealt with inadequately by the Convention whose representatives were little qualified by practical experience to deal with the matter. As to the rules regarding space, he said as a specialist who had had many opportunities of becoming acquainted with the practical side of the question, that to maintain the space now demanded was unreasonable, and he still hoped that the consent of the European Powers may be obtained to the reduction of the space to 12 feet. Turning to the matter of increased cost the speaker went very fully into the question, quoting figures obtained from Bombay regarding nine steamers employed in the pilgrim traffic, and proving that if one-fifth were added to the cost of the passages in the case of three steamers and one-third or one-half in the case of the others, owners would be compensated for the loss involved by the increased space conditions. Dr. Lethbridge also touched at length on hospital accommodation and food supply, and said that the Select Committee had done all it reasonably could to meet the wishes of the Mahomedan community."

The Bill will be passed at the next meeting shorn of certain objectionable provisions. Not because the Government admit the validity of the objections raised, but because the Convention has not been ratified. They, however, prepare themselves to carry out orders whenever received by taking power beforehand. The Bill has been based on the Convention. The ground failing, the Bill is not to be abandoned. It has been said that it is only an enabling Bill. To our thinking, that is the most serious objection against the measure.

DR. SAMBHU C. MOOKERJEE.

[This letter addressed to the biographer of the deceased Doctor, has been sent to us by Mr. Skrine for publication.—Ed., *R. & R.*]

September 13, 1895.

Sir,—Although I have not the honour of being personally known to you, yet, considering the nature of the subject upon which I am going to address you, I do not think I need make any apology in approaching you with this note. Being one of those who for many years enjoyed the privilege of associating with the late Dr. Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee as an admiring assistant and collaborateur, it is impossible for me not to take a deep interest in the biographical work which you are about to bring out. I perused carefully the sketches that appeared last year in the *National Magazine* and, despite the risk of offending you by presuming to pass an opinion on your work, I cannot help observing that I was much surprised at the ability displayed by you in compiling the facts and putting them together in due perspective. There is only one point about which the view propounded by you may, it seems, be misunderstood, without a little further explanation than what you have given. In your second article on Dr. Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee in the *National Magazine*, you speak of the Doctor as one whose natural impulsiveness was never subjected to the regulating influence of a good moral education, and who to the end of his life retained many of the characteristics of a spoiled child. As I never saw the Doctor in a subordinate position, I am not prepared to say, from personal knowledge, whether there was or was not in him a natural impatience of control. But from what I have heard about his harmoniously acting as a Sub to Hurrish Chandra Mookerjee, it does not seem to me that our esteemed friend was incapable of submitting to the guidance of a superior.

Dr. Sambhu Chunder betrayed, no doubt, a great want of steadiness in the choice of a profession. As you observe rightly we find him "everything by turns and nothing long." But that was because his talents and temperament were more suited for a literary career and for courting poverty than for the high offices he was obliged or induced to seek for that wealth, power and position which they offer. When he accepted service first, he had not, perhaps, the remotest idea of the difficulties that he would have to cope with. The experience that he acquired subsequently satisfied him that it was neither possible nor worth his while to devote to the service of an Indian Prince a genius that was meant for mankind. With this idea

deeply impressed on his mind latterly, we find him settled down ultimately as an independent journalist. In that sphere he found a position of stable equilibrium.

You have yourself shown that the failure of the lamented Doctor to maintain his footing at Murshidabad or Tippera was not due to any fault on his part. In my view his great mistake was to accept service under Indian Princes without the resources and qualifications necessary for success in such service. Perhaps, at the beginning his idea was that, with such ability as he possessed, he was bound to flourish in any sphere in which he would be placed. But if that was his dream in the morning of life, he was before long rudely awakened to its realities. I may here, without incurring the charge of egotism, tell you that my own experiences in life were very similar to those of the Doctor, and we used sometimes to pass many long hours in comparing notes. On one of these occasions, the Doctor gave expression to the result of his official experience in a pithy epigram which may be regarded by some as misanthropic, but which only propounds an important truth. He observed that success in the court of an Indian Prince, of the ordinary type, was attainable only by men endowed by nature with an innate depravity. However disagreeable it may be to all good and virtuous men, it is one of those rugged maxims hewn from life that are worth much more than tons of schoolbook lore. Innate depravity alone may not suffice to make one a successful courtier, but it is a *sine qua non*, and as a man of learning and real ability must generally be without it, he is sure to be out-witted by those masters in Machiavelism that abound in every Indian Durbar.

In order to prove the truth of his doctrine, our lamented friend mentioned to me some particulars of his experiences at Murshidabad, which I think are likely to interest you as his biographer. The department of the Nizamut in which the prevailing laxity was most lamentable, and which most urgently called for reforms, was that called the Karkhana Matalag, and which, with the chief eunuch, Nawab Darab Ali Khan, at the head, had charge, among other things, of the stables. The finest elephants and horses belonging to the Nizamat were literally starved to death in order that the wretched and heartless fiends at whose mercy they were placed, might eke out an extra income by depriving them of their fodder in their life-time, and by being deputed, after their death, to purchase other animals of the same kind. To prevent this sort of cruelty to the poor animals, and the consequent loss to their master, the minister appointed an extra officer who was a Mahomedan, and who had made a good impression on him by his Arabic learning. The new officer tried hard to justify the choice of his patron. But his appointment and his vigilance gave great umbrage to the powerful Darab Ali and his underlings. The Nazim did not like the eunuch personally. But he was an old man and an official of long standing. So the Nazim could not deny him a hearing, and, with such tricks as he and his followers had, it was not very difficult for him to obtain the sanction of his master to whatever he insisted upon. Next to innate depravity, the most important qualifications of a courtier are Zenana connection and histrionic power, and of these the eunuch, as a matter of course, possessed an abundance. He was, no doubt, not related as a brother-in law to his master. But as the chief eunuch he had far greater influence than any Queen's brother ever had. In addition to this he could express his joys and sorrows, at the required temperature with the exquisite delicacy of a scientific instrument. After the appointment of the aforesaid Moulvi he did nothing hastily, but took about a month to watch the course of events, and to mature his scheme. When the time for action came, the veteran Groom of the stables presented himself one day before his master in a very dejected mood. Upon being asked as to the cause of his distress, he burst into tears and only blubbered out the remark that he was levelled to the dust. The Nazim was naturally affected by the artistic weeping of the old man, and anxiously pressed for being enlightened with an explanation. The eunuch only continued to shed tears and his tools, who were also present at the time, then found their opportunity. They explained to the Nazim that the old man had very good reason to feel insulted by the appointment of a pauper who virtually made him *functus officio*, and who openly boasted of his having done so by saying that he had levelled to the dust such a big official as the eunuch Nawab Darab Ali. The Nazim inquired whether there was any evidence to prove that the new officer of the Karkhana Matalag really made the remark alleged against him. Darab Ali had, of course, a partisan present at the place to swear to the truth of the allegation. The victim of the intrigue was sent for and asked to state what he had to say. Unfortunately, in denying the charge, he took an oath by the blood of Imam Hossain. This gave an opportunity to the intriguers to rouse the sectarian hatred of the Nazim against the poor Moulvi. He was a Sunni while the Nazim was a Shia. So Darab Ali and his infamous crew at once cried out that the oath taken by the heretic was not a very serious one to him. As a Sunni it was his usual business to drink the blood of Imam Hosain. This was the crowning stroke, and it sufficed to induce the Nazim to dismiss the good Moulvi at once. The humiliation that the minister felt on the occasion can be easily imagined. What evidently pained him much more was the extinction of his hopes to save the noble animals of the Nizamat stables from the cruelty that was practised on them. The eunuch who allowed them to be starved to death had all the essential qualifications of a courtier, and he triumphed. Our lamented friend lacked those resources, and he was easily driven to the wall, despite all his learning and administrative ability. The only ground on which he can be said to have had the characteristics of a spoiled child, lies in the fact that he surfeited himself with every kind of literary delicacy for which he took a fancy. He could never reconcile himself to the drudgery of chewing and digesting those dry bones of technical subjects which alone can qualify a man for practising with success any of the liberal professions. I believe this is all that you mean when you say that the Doctor's career was marred by impulsiveness and want of self-control. But I fear you have not been sufficiently explicit, and the observation made by you might be misunderstood. When your Life of the Doctor first appeared in the *National Magazine*, I did not communicate my views on the subject to you in the belief that some other friend of the Doctor, personally known to you, would draw your attention to the matter. But from the tenor of the lecture delivered by you, in the hall of the Society for the Higher Training of Young Men, on Wednesday last, it seems that nothing has happened yet to lead you to express your views with the necessary qualifications so as to preclude the possibility of your being misunderstood. Hence, though a stranger to you, I take the liberty of addressing you this note.

Yours truly,
JOGENDRA NATH BHATTACHARYA.

Official Paper.

THE BHAGALPUR ELECTION.

From H. J. S. Cotton, Esq., C. S. I., Chief Secretary to the Government of Bengal,---To the Commissioner of the Bhagalpur Division,---(No 432-A/D, dated Darjeeling, the 7th September, 1895.

Sir,---It was reported by you on the 25th of July, 1895, that the electoral representatives of District Boards of the Bhagalpur Division had met on that date, in accordance with the requisition of Government, to elect a representative for the Bengal Council, and that the delegates were unable to make any recommendation in the manner prescribed by Rule V (c) of the Regulations made under section 1 (4) of the Indian Councils Act, 1892, *i.e.*, to recommend by a majority of votes any person for nomination by the Lieutenant-Governor as Member of

the Bengal Council to represent the Division. It was found that there were two votes recorded for Mr. George Hennessy of Mutharapur in the Malda district, and two votes for Rai Surji Narain Singh Bahadur of Bhagalpur, and the delegates placed it on record that it was impossible for them to select any candidate on whom the majority could agree, and that they were quite convinced that further meetings would be useless, and that no other result could be obtained.

In these circumstances it devolved on the Lieutenant-Governor under Rule VII of the Regulations---a period of more than two months having elapsed since the requisition was made---to nominate a person belonging to the class which the District Boards of Bhagalpur are deemed to represent.

Upon receipt of the report of the delegates, the Lieutenant-Governor made an attempt through you to ascertain the number of Board members who had supported either Mr. Hennessy or Rai Surji Narain, and it was hoped that by this means it might be possible to determine which of the two candidates for election had received the largest number of votes from the electing body. But after considering your report and the reports of the Chairmen of the District Boards concerned, and after personal discussion with both the candidates, Sir Charles Elliott found it impossible to come to any satisfactory conclusion regarding the voting power in favour of each candidate. Both Mr. Hennessy and Rai Surji Narain claimed to have received a majority of votes throughout the Division, and owing to the fact that there were several other candidates for election on whose behalf votes were given, and that in the districts of Purnea and Malda votes were recorded for delegates only, and not for candidates, it was not found possible to decide on whose behalf the largest number of Board members had voted. The Lieutenant-Governor enquired into this matter personally on the occasion of his recent visit to Bhagalpur, and satisfied himself that no nomination for a seat in Council made on this basis would give general satisfaction.

His Honor then considered whether he should order a re-election by the District Boards, or ascertain from every individual member of the Boards for whom he wished to vote, but he regrets to say that the Bhagalpur election proceedings have been marked by so much tergiversation and breach of pledges, by so much wire-pulling and improper influence brought to bear upon the voters, as well as by electoral dodges ; some of which were not of a creditable character, and occasionally, he fears, by practices which would not be tolerated under the law in England, that he does not consider that it would now be possible to ascertain, or desirable to enquire, for which of the candidates the members of the Boards who did not record their votes at the elections of June and July would actually have wished to record them. Moreover he is convinced that it would be unwise so to re-open the whole question at a time when public feeling is much excited on the subject. It is most important that the strong and bitter feelings which have been roused by this election should be allowed to subside, and that no steps should be taken which would tend to resuscitate them.

Another alternative was carefully considered by Government, viz., to disfranchise the Division and transfer its right of election to another Division. But such penalty seemed too heavy, remembering that this is the first occasion on which a failure to nominate has occurred, or corrupt practices have been suspected ; and besides it is a course which had not been provided for in the Regulations under section 1 (4) of the Indian Councils Act.

It seemed better, therefore, to fall back on the course prescribed by Rule VII of the Regulations, and in order that the District Boards of the Division might be suitably represented in Council, the Lieutenant-Governor submitted the name of Maharaja Bahadur Sir Ravaneshwar Prashad Singh K.C.I.E., of Gidhaur, in the district of Monghyr, to His Excellency the Governor-General in Council, with a request that the appointment of the Maharaja to a seat on His Honor's Council might be approved. The sanction of His Excellency to this nomination has now been communicated to the Bengal Government, and the appointment will be made in due course.

I am to request that you will communicate a copy of this letter to the Chairmen of the District Boards in your Division, and also to Mr. Hennessy and to Rai Surji Narayan Singh Bahadur.

GRIEVANCES OF BRITISH INDIAN SUBJECTS RESIDING IN AFRICA.

1. There are over 100,000 British Indian subjects residing in South Africa *i.e.*, in Cape Colony, Natal, the South African Republic (Transvaal), and the Orange Free State. These may be roughly divided into four main classes as follows :

(1) *Merchants.*
(2) *Hawkers.*
(3) *Domestic Servants.*
(4) *Labourers, i.e.*, indentured coolies whose indentures have expired.

In the Transvaal alone there are 200 merchants (with liquidated assets valued at £100,000), about 2,000 hawkers, and 1,500 domestic servants.

2. The Indian traders by their thrifty and simple mode of life have become strong competitors in trade with European settlers. This has aroused jealousy and bad feeling among the other colonists, who appear to be treating the Indians in a spirit of persecution and vexatious tyranny ; and more especially by means of their preponderating voice in the several South African States, to be making a determined effort to lower the *status* of those British subjects who happen to be natives of British India.

3. The following are some of the matters in which it is attempted to impose restrictions upon British Indians, by the several Governments of Cape Colony, Natal, the South African Republic (Transvaal), and the Orange Free State :---

(1) The acquisition of Real Property.
(2) The possession of the Franchise.
(3) Freedom of locomotion both by day and night.
(4) The granting of Trade licenses (which are necessary for all engaged in trade).
(5) Freedom of choice as regards places of residence and places of business.

Early in this year the Cape Assembly passed a Bill authorising the East London Municipality to legislate with a view to compel British Indians to reside in locations and to take out passes should they want to leave their homes after 9 p.m. Generally, an attempt is being made to treat all Indians, whatever their caste and position, as "coolies," *i.e.*, labourers (generally assisted emigrants whose indentures have expired) ; and further to class all "coolies" with kaffirs and other native races, however uncivilised.

4. Trade jealousy is at the root of this hostile treatment, but other pleas are put forward, namely, that the Indians are uncivilised barbarians, and more particularly that their insanitary mode of life is a standing menace to the health of the community. On this latter point, however, the evidence appears to be all the other way. *Vide post*, para. 9.

5. The most urgent matter is perhaps the attempt which is being made to compel the Indians to confine themselves both for purposes of residence and of trade to certain fixed "locations," necessarily inconvenient for trade, as being away from the actual town, and possibly dangerous to health, as being in a situation for which no one has any particular use except it may be the deposit of town refuse. [Such a case actually occurred in 1893, and elicited a strong protest from the British Agent against the action of the Transvaal Government. *Vide* Green Book No. 11. of 1893.] Such an unreasonable restriction on liberty can at the best mean nothing less than financial ruin to a merchant.

6. What appears to have taken place in the Transvaal is this. The Convention of Pretoria, 1881, clause 14, and the Convention of London, 1884, between the South African Republic and Great Britain, alike provide that equal treatment in the eye of the law shall be received by all persons residing in the Republic save and except natives of the place. These conventions did not confer any *status* on the Indians or any other British subjects. They merely safeguarded that "footing of equality with all Her Majesty's other subjects" upon which successive Secretaries of State for the Colonies have desired that the Queen's Indian subjects should be treated.

7. Cause 14 of the Convention was amended by law 3 of 1885 in the direction of allowing British Indian subjects to be required to reside and trade in separate "locations." But to this Law Her Majesty's Government refused assent, stating most emphatically in the course of the correspondence on the subject that separate streets might be set apart for the Indians in the interests of the public health, but that they could not be compelled to trade in certain fixed parts only of the towns.

8. In 1886 an amended form of law 3 of 1885 was passed, and the then High Commissioner, Sir H. Robinson, in withdrawing his opposition thereto made it clear that even in its amended form this departure from the Convention was only permitted on what had been represented to him as urgent sanitary grounds. In his letter dated 26th September, 1886, at p. 46 of Green Book No. I of 1894, he says, "Although the amended law is still a contravention of the 14th Article of London, I shall not advise Her Majesty's Government to offer further opposition to it in view of your Honour's opinion that it is necessary for the protection of the public health." It is to be regretted that Sir H. Robinson did not take steps to ascertain for himself whether or not the state of things in existence at the time justified the opinion of the Head of the Republic as expressed to him.

9 The assumption that any sanitary necessity exists for this curtailment of the liberties of British Indian subjects appears to be singularly ill-founded. The following three certificates from European doctors resident in Pretoria and Johannesburg speak for themselves:---

"I hereby certify that I have practised as a general medical practitioner in the town of Pretoria for the last five years.

During that period I have had a considerable practice amongst

the Indians, especially about three years ago, when they were more numerous than at present.

I have generally found them cleanly in their persons, and free from the personal diseases due to dirt or careless habits. Their dwellings are generally clean, and sanitation is willingly attended to by them. Class considered, I should be of opinion that the lowest class Indian compares most favourably with the lowest class white, *i.e.*, the lowest class Indian lives better and in better habitation, and with more regard to sanitary measures, than the lowest class white.

I have, further, found that during the period that small-pox was epidemic in the town and district, and is still epidemic in the district, that although every nation nearly had one or more of its members at sometime in the lazaretto, there was not a single Indian attacked.

Generally, in my opinion, it is impossible to object to the Indian on sanitary grounds, provided always, the inspection of the sanitary authorities is made as strictly and regularly for the Indian as for the white.

H. Prior Veale, B.A., M.B., B.C. Cantab.

27th April, 1895.
Pretoria, Z. A. R.

Johannesburg, 1895.

This is to certify that I have examined the residences of the bearers of this note, and that they are in a sanitary and hygienic condition, and in fact such as any European might inhabit. I have resided in India, I can certify that their habitations here in the Z.A.R. are far superior to those of thier native country.

C. P. Spink, M.R.C.S. & L.R.C.P. (London).

Having frequently occasion to visit the better class of the Indian population of Johannesburg (merchants, etc., coming from Bomboy) in my professional quality, I give as my opinion, that they are as clean in their habits and domestic life as white people of the same standing.

Dr. Nahmmacher, M.D., etc.

Johannesburg,
14th March, 1895."

10. Here, however, the matter was not allowed to rest. Difficulties again arose on the subject of the British Indian subjects and further correspondence took place between the British Government and the Republic, the result of which was that sometime ago the differences between the two Governments were referred to the arbitration of the Chief Justice of the Orange Free State to whom power was given "to decide either in favour of the claims put forward by Her Majesty's Government or by the South African Republic, *or to lay down such interpretation of the ordinances*, read together with the despatches referring to the question, *as shall appear to him to be correct*."

11. The Chief Justice has made his award, but if the text of it as given in a petition to the Secretary of State for the Colonies from the British Indian subjects residing in the South African Republic is correct then certainly he has not decided the principal question referred to him. He was required to lay down such interpretation of the ordinances as should appear to *him* to be correct. He has not done so, he refers to law 3 of 1885, and its amendment in 1886, and says that the Republic is bound and entitled to give full force and effect to this law subject in case of objections "to sole and exclusive interpretation in the ordinary course of the tribunals of the country." The law and the tribunals of the country were in existence before the reference to the arbitrator, and both the disputants were well aware of the fact. What they wanted was the Chief Justice's interpretation of the law read with the despatches, and not the interpretation of the law by the tribunals of the country, He has not given it to them, and there can be no doubt but that the award, apart altogether from its unsatisfactory character, is not binding on either party, and the controversy remains where it was when the reference was made to the Chief Justice.

12 So far the British Government would seem to have acted in the interests of their Indian subjects, but hitherto their action has not borne fruit, and the grievances remain unredressed. The first step towards this end is the repeal of the unconstitutional amendments to clause 14 of the Convention of London.

13. From information which has come to this country it is clear that an attempt is being made to disfranchise British Indian subjects throughout South Africa by means of new legislation imposing conditions which are a practical bar to Indians retaining or obtaining the Franchise. As regards Cape Colony, it appears that an Act, namely, Act 9 of 1892, was passed by the Colonial Parliament, and promulgated on August 16th, 1892. The Indians objected to it as being in effect a disfranchisement Act so far as they were concerned, and they petitioned the Crown to withhold its assent from it; the reasons on which the petition is based are contained in a letter sent by the Indians to the then Secretary of State for the Colonies, dated October 24th, 1892. As regards Natal also, a disfranchising Act was passed in 1894. The Indians protested and, failing in the Colony, sent a petition to the Secretary of State for the Colonies praying that the Act might be disallowed by Her Majesty. There is reason to believe that this petition has not yet been disposed of by the Colonial Office.

14. The matters above dealt with are of extreme gravity. They touch directly the well-being of British Indian subjects in South Africa, and indirectly the rights and privileges of such subjects emigrating to other parts of Her Majesty's dominions. It is hoped that they will receive earnest and sympathetic consideration on the part of the authorities at home, and such steps taken as will ensure to the British Indian subject the privileges which he enjoyed before the measures complained of were taken in hand.

Dadabhai Naoroji.

28th August, 1895.

SIZE AND STRENGTH NO DEFENCE.

Here's a point for you to think over: *Size and development have nothing to do with health.* A man may stand six feet two inches in his stockings and have the muscles of a prize fighter, and yet be an essentially unhealthy man. His frail-looking wife may be really the better of the couple; she may easily do more work, endure more exposure, bear more grief and worry, and outlive her big husband. There is a mystery in this that nobody can see into. It is a matter of vitality and organisation—not of dimensions.

Take, for example, the case of Mr. T. B. Staples, of Oakwood, Ont. He is a blacksmith; and I well remember how, when a boy I used to regard a blacksmith with awe and wonder on account of his strength. It was fearsome to see him swing those mighty hammers and pick up a heavy cartwheel as though it were a child's hoop. Yet I saw only in part and understood in part.

"Some twelve years ago," writes Mr. Staples, "I became aware that the dreaded disease, dyspepsia, had chosen me for one of its many victims. It is hardly necessary for me to try to describe all the different feelings that came over me. I have talked with many people suffering with dyspepsia, and they have all had about the same experience. Among the symptoms on which we agreed are the following: Bad taste in the mouth; fulness and deadness in the stomach after eating; getting no good from one's food; headache and palpitation of the heart; gas and sour fluids from the stomach; dizziness, especially when one rises up suddenly, or bends over his work; loss of appetite; pains in the chest and back, and the weakness that comes from not eating and digesting enough food to keep the body going. All these things I had; and you can imagine how bad they are for any one; particularly for a man who has got to earn his living by daily hard work, as in my case.

"After I found out what was the matter with me I consulted a doctor at once, and began to take the medicine he gave me. I am sorry to say it did me little or no good. Although there is a common opinion that stomach troubles are not very serious, and never dangerous, I must say that is not my opinion. No man who suffers from dyspepsia as long as I did (about six years) will ever talk foolishly or lightly about it. Even the doctors admit it is the hardest of all diseases to keep track of, and to cure. If it does not kill a man right out of hand, *it spreads the shadow o death over him all the time he has it*, and takes all the laughter out of his days.

"Well, after the doctor's medicine failed, I kept on taking anything and everything that was recommended to me in hopes of relief. Yet none of them went to the root of the trouble. Sometimes I would feel a little better and sometimes worse, and that's the way things went on with me year after year, a dreary and miserable time. There's no money could hire me to live it over again.

"I was still in this condition when a friend, that I had been talking to about myself, advised me to try Mother Seigel's Curative Syrup. I didn't know the merits of the Syrup then, but being anxious to try anything that might help me, I bought a bottle from Messrs. Hogg Brothers, and commenced taking it. All I can say is, that I found relief immediately, and by continuing with it a short time, all my bad symptoms abated one by one, and I found myself completely rid of the dyspepsia. Since then I have never had a touch of the old complaint. If there is any other medicine in the world that is able to cure indigestion and dyspepsia as Mother Seigel's Syrup does it, why I have never heard of it. I have recommended the Syrup to other sufferers, and they have been more than pleased with it; and I write these hasty lines in hope the publication of them may come in the nick of time to be useful to others still. Yours very truly (Singned) Thos. B. Staples Oakwood, Ontario, February 25th, 1895."

We need add but few words to Mr. Staples' intelligent and manly letter. The disease which afflicted him attacks both sexes, all ages, and all classes and conditions of humanity. Neither youth nor strength is proof against it. It imitates other complaints, and so leads to fatal mistakes in treatment. If you are wise you will acquaint yourself with its character, as described in Mother Seigel's almanack, and know what to do in time of need.

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from Banerjee, the late Revd. Dr. K. M
to Banerjee, Babu Sarodaprasad.
from Bell, the late Major Evans.
from Bhaddam, Chief of.
to Bunaya Krishna, Raja.
to Chrlu, Rao Bahadur Ananda.
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to, from Vambéry, Professor Arminius.
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to Vizianagram, Maharaja of.
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DROIT ET AVANT.

Reis and Rayyet

(PRINCE & PEASANT)

WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

VOL. XIV. CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 1895. WHOLE NO. 694.

CONTEMPORARY POETRY.

THE SUNYASSEE.

BY JAMES HUTCHINSON.

CANTO FIRST.

(Continued from p. 446.)

X.

I watched her, almost day by day,
And when, by chance, the passing breeze,
That woke the leaves, upon the trees,
A moment, tossed her veil away,
I saw her face, so beauteous fair
The tresses of her raven hair;
I saw her large black eye!
A something in it seemed to say,
Not, that I should not vainly sigh;
But that she felt compassionate,
And took an interest, in my fate;
I grew more bold; I tried to speak,
But could not, I had grown so weak;
I know not how, I breathed my pain,
And found.—I was beloved again!
Perhaps, I may not tell it right,
But this believe, nor deem it light,
Mine was the fault, howe'er it seem,
For she was pure, as Ganges' stream,
Ere it hath burst, from the Gowmookh,*
And, of the earth, a stain partook.

XI.

We met in secret, night by night,
And ye may fancy the delight,
I felt, to be with her alone,
Without an eye, to mark or tell,
The what it had, or had not known,
The how, or where, that it befell.
Such joy was mine, by the Moon's light,
And in these lands, they have such moons,
So clear, so beautiful, and bright,
They look, like sisters of their suns;
If this were joy, oh! fancy then,
The rapture, which I felt, and feel,
When, I recall that dream again,
Which time; or change can ne'er anneal;
When first, I clasped her to my breast,
When first, her lip to mine was prest;
I questioned not, nor sought to speak,
I felt the burning of her cheek;
As on my neck, her head she hung,
As her heart's throb replied to mine,
While round her form, my arms were flung,
And hers, around my neck, did twine:
Once, such things were; but they are past,
How could those maddening moments last;
But graven deep, in mercy's sake,
Their memory, in my heart, is traced,
And now, the mirror first must break,
Before that image be effaced.

XII.

A joy, indeed, well worthy heaven,
Is the first kiss [illegible] love, given;
Life hath nought [illegible] to [illegible],
So pure, so genuine, and refined,
No rapture, that the heart can know,
And yet, it leaves no sting behind;
Compared to ecstacy like this,
How, more than poor, is vulgar bliss;
But there is that, within the heart,
And there, we seem to be accurst,
That preys, and gnaws, nor will depart,
Till it hath known the best, or worst;
And in our passion, and our pride,
When she, we love, is by our side,
We little reck what may betide.
In such an hour; tho' thou mayst smile,
And deem, that I could ne'er beguile,
I sat with her, beneath a light,
That seemed to chide the gloom of night,
Shedding its beams, in silvery shower,
That, o'er the heart, had secret power,
And tho' unskilled, with hope to please,
I sang to her such notes, as these.

SONG.

Ah! sure this hour, was made for love;
While other hours are but to live;
You glorious orb, that rolls above,*
She knows our hearts, and will forgive.

From bough to bough, with devious flight,
You insect sparkles, as it flies;
What is its flitting, fitful, light,
To that, which speaks, in thy black eyes?

* The Gowmookh is a rocky cleft or gorge, through which the Ganges bursts, from the Himalaya chain of mountains, into the plains. It is called Gowmookh, from a fancied resemblance to the mouth or face of the cow, the most sacred of animals, in the estimation of the Hindoos.

* Chandra, the moon, or the goddess who presides over that luminary, is worshipped by the Hindoos. She is represented seated in a two-wheeled car or chariot, drawn by an antelope, while a pennon indicates, that it is against the wind. By this emblem, the Hindoos may be supposed to typify the irresistible nature and fleetingness of time.

Subscribers in the country are requested to remit by postal money orders, if possible, as the safest and most convenient medium, particularly as it ensures acknowledgment through the Department. No other receipt will be given, any other being unnecessary and likely to cause confusion.

Tho' sweet, the Jasmine's rich perfume,
Tho' sweet, the dews, the wild bees sip,
Tho' sweet, the new-blown rose's bloom ;
What are they, to thy sweeter lip ?

As, from the dusky shades of night,
Yon splendent Moon seems doubly fair,
Even so, thy beauteous face of light
Seems fairer, from thy raven hair.

Say ! why this sad, tho' witching grace ?
What sorrow clouds thy lovely breast ?
Oh ! turn to me that angel face,
And I will kiss thee, into rest.

Dry up my Love ! the precious tears,
That gem those beauteous eyes of thine ;
Oh ! cease to form these idle fears,
Or thou wilt break this heart of mine.

In other lands, these lights will shine,
As fleet, this moonlight hour will glide ;
When I am thine, and thou art mine,
Then, what were all the world beside.

XIII.

But why conceal ; each dell, and grove
Was witness to our midnight love ;
And many a lovely spot is there,
Down, by th' Atchaibut's sainted shrine ; *
Or where Bhurmjoun, high in air,
Its temple rears, the sacred sign
Of our new birth ; † the promise given ;
Whereby, the twice-born hope for Heaven ;
Or, by Ramsillah's wooded hill, ‡
Or, by Ramgyah's lonely tree,
Or, where the Fulgo's waters swell,
When he holds his yearly jubillee.—

XIV.

That time is now ;—the rains from Heaven,
Descend ;—his waters proudly flow,
With force, and speed, like arrow driven,
By manhood's strength, from bended bow.
Thou see'st yon small, and rocky isle,
Near the Ramsillah's base,
So fresh, and green, it seems to smile,
As, in mid-stream, it lays ;
Aye ! once indeed, it might have smiled,
It held my Lilloo's home,
And still her father calls his child ;
She comes not,—cannot come !
The moss-grown temple, mid the trees,
The shrine, at which her parent prays,
The hut, in which she dwelt, are there ;
But where is she ?—oh ! where, oh ! where ?

XV.

We met, as we had done before,
I rowed her to, and from the shore ;
Until that fatal night,—that night,
When moon, and stars withheld their light,
That night of darkness,—dark indeed,
Aye, dark even, as the grave,
That night, I saw my Lilloo bleed,
And saw,—and could not save.

XVI.

'Twas midnight, and the stream its course,
Pursued with more, than wonted force,
Boiling in eddies, here and there,
That downward sucked the drifting wrack,
And shrieking, as if fiends of air,
To aid its will, were at its back ;
'Twas then, my skiff approached the land,
Behind a rock, her father stood !
Just as it grated, on the strand,
He hurled her, in the roaring flood.
" Now go," said he, " and take thy fill,
" Aye go, and stroll with her, at will ;
" For impious love, the fittest bed
" Is secret dwelling, with the dead.
" What craven ! I had thought thee brave,
" And fear'st thou then, to share her grave ?"
I heard no more ; I plunged in,
I followed, and I searched in vain ;
Yet once, I saw a speck of white,
Or thought so, by that feeble light,
And once, oh God ! I heard my name,
But, in such accents of despair,
As tenderness were mixed with blame,
They still are ringing, in my ear ;
No ! not to save, from years of pain,
Would I those wild shrieks hear again.

XVII.

Worn, and unfit to struggle more,
'Tis all I know, I reached the shore,
I followed, by the river's side ;
With Lilloo's name, I rent the air ;
I listened, but no voice replied,
An echo mocked, at my despair.
I heard the Jackal's piercing cry,

* The Atchaibut is one of the principal temples of Hindoo worship at Gyah. It is there, that the concluding ceremonies of all the pilgrimages are performed

† The Bhurmjoun is the name of a lofty conical peak, among the hills, in the immediate vicinity of the town of Gyah. It is surmounted by a Hindoo temple, and has altogether a very picturesque and romantic appearance.

Within a few yards of the temple, on the top of the mountain, there is a subterraneous cleft in the rock, and through this, I was given to understand, the pilgrims pass, by way of being born again or regenerated, or as it is expressed in Brahminical language, of being twice-born. It would appear that ceremonies similar to, or with the same object in view, as the baptism of the Christian faith, were performed prior to the time of our Saviour. In the Hindoo scriptural writings the word twice-born is of common occurrence, and in our own scriptures, we read of persons of the Jewish faith being baptised unto Moses. John the Baptist likewise baptised, previous to the time of Jesus Christ. The Hindoos endeavoured to imitate the process of being born again, more literally, and they forced themselves through clefts in rocks, which had become sanctified by time ; or they dug subterraneous caves, in the earth or rock, for the same purpose. I have been informed, that a natural cleft, perhaps similar to those above mentioned, exists somewhere in the vicinity of Dumfries in Scotland, and that it still goes by the name of the Maiden's Bower, I believe from its being considered a criterion, in doubtful cases, in which that delicate point is to be determined. Can this be some stray tradition, that has come down to us, straggling through the mist of ages, till it has lost its way ? Those, who have not had the advantage of personal observation, in the East, may derive a good deal of information, on this subject, from the perusal of Mr. O'Brien's work, on the Round Towers of Ireland.

‡ The Ramsillah is a detached hill, covered with brushwood, and surmounted by one or more Hindoo temples. It it situated, on the left bank of the Fulgo, immediately below the town of Gyah, and is held in great religious veneration by the Hindoos.

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'Twas plaintive, as my own, and yet*
I hated it, I scarce knew why ;
I thought of what might be her fate,
And shuddered, and his lust of gore
Seemed then, more hideous, than before !
What? tho' to glut his fierce desire,
Were but to rob the stream or pyre ;†
The thought, that she had ceased to breathe,
Had, in it, agony and death ;
And so, I followed on, untired,
Tho' scarce a ray of hope inspired.

(To be continued.)

WEEKLYANA.

WE quote *Hope* :—

"We have received a copy of "An Indian Journalist," being the Life, Letters and Correspondence of Dr. Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee, late Editor of *Reis and Rayyet*, Calcutta, by F. H. Skrine, I. C. S. Calcutta : Thacker, Spink and Co., 1895. The volume covers about 500 pages, crown octavo, and is deeply interesting from start to *finis*, as we can say from a few hasty glances we have had through its pages. Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee was, as we have often said, a man in a million, a prince among journalists, a nobleman to the backbone. His life and letters should therefore be read with care and thought, such as we have not yet had time to give. But we hope to publish a detailed review of the work as soon as we have done so. The name of Mr. Skrine is a sufficient guarantee for the excellence of the body of the volume before us, while the letters and correspondence of Dr. Mookerjee, some of which we have read, are of rare interest and value, not to say highly instructive. As the proceeds of the sale of the book will go to the late Doctor's family, we would recommend to all educated men, European and Native, to buy the book and read it. Mr. Skrine deserves the thanks of all India for his labour of love and nothing will show that thankfulness except a practical and substantial demonstration. The book is priced Six Rupees and is thoroughly worth that sum."

To make the book purchasable by many, the cash price has been fixed at Rs. 5, postages &c., 4 annas, *per* V. P. P., Rs. 5 6. Rs. 6 is the credit price.

***

WE read in an old journal :

"Haydn and Mrs. Billington.—Every real lover of music must like Haydn's expressions to Reynolds when shewn the picture of Mrs. Billington : 'Yes, like, very like, but you've made a sad mistake !' 'How ?' 'You've made her listening to the angels; you should have made the angels listening to her.' Mrs. Billington sprang up, threw her arms around his neck, and kissed him."

It is related of Raja Rajkrishna of Sutanati that, ravished by the music of a songster, he kissed him, mistaking him for a songstress. The Raja had refused at first to give him audience, because he excelled in lighter airs and sang *tuppa* which came most fittingly and sweetly from woman's lips. After repeated and earnest entreaties, he agreed to hear him from the next room. Notwithstanding, the music was so enchanting that the Raja forgot himself and did what he had long wanted to avoid.

***

THE delightful Eden of modern times is surely Loimaw, one of the smallest of the Southern Shan States. "The soil is good and it is well watered ; and the population is as thick on the ground as the land will carry, and they appear very flourishing. The old Newegunhmu is the father of eight grown-up children, and may be described as the father of his people as well. The population is entirely agricultural, and crime is unknown. A happy and contented family party, who are not overassessed but bear their fair burden towards the general tribute with the rest of the States." Such is the description of the place by Mr. Hildebrand. Is the Superintendent of the Shan States any descendant of the Nestor of German romance ?

***

HERE is a process of renovating old trees, recommended by a gardener who for many years largely supplied the London market with fruit.

"It is generally found that after an apple-tree has borne for a certain number of years, it becomes comparatively unproductive. It has been usual in such cases to remove the old tree, and replace it by a younger one. This may be obviated by regrafting the old tree ; and according to the testimony of the gardener, the older the stock, the better is the quality of the fruit. He had scarcely a tree of any age, among several hundreds that his orchard contained, when the writer visited it, that had not undergone this process, and in some cases more than once. There were trees whose trunks were so hollow as in some parts to be little more than a shell, which had been subjected to this operation the season before, and, judging from the vigorous appearance of the grafts, with perfect success. The plan he adopted was the following :— The ends of the branches were sawn or cut off where they were about the size of a man's wrist, or rather less, and two or more scions inserted in each, according to circumstances. By this means, in the course of three years he obtained a large, full-bearing tree. The principal difficulty was to protect the new grafts from damage in high winds. This was overcome by ingrafting the half of the tree at one time, and leaving the other to form a shelter ; and completing the other half when the grafts were sufficiently grown to return the shelter. It is scarcely necessary to add, that this precaution did not supersede the usual appliances for giving the scions support, by means of poles attached to the branches. It may also be remarked, that the productive powers of apple-trees are frequently impaired by the want of sufficient attention in gathering the fruit. The greatest care should be observed in removing the apple, that the bearing spur be not broken or injured thereby."

***

IN Australia they have a simple and rapid method of converting the whole carcass of an animal into tallow. It is called "boiling down" and thus described in *Bush Life in Australia* :

"The whole carcass, having been cut to pieces, and thrown into large cast-iron pans, each capable of containing several bullocks, is boiled to rags, during which operation the fat is skimmed off, until no more rises to the surface. The boiled meat is then taken out of the pans, and after having been squeezed in a wooden press, which forces out the remaining particles of tallow, it is either thrown away or used as food for pigs, vast numbers of which are sometimes kept in this manner in the neighbourhood of a boiling establishment. The proprietor of these places will either boil down the settler's sheep and cattle at so much per head, or purchase them wholly from him in the first instance, and convert them into tallow at their own risk. The value of an animal for this purpose depends of course entirely on his condition, and usually varies from 30*s.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*"

In Calcutta, all sorts of dead and decomposed animals are "boiled down" for *ghee* of the ordinary market, which is repugnant to both the Hindu and the Mahomedan. We are not sure that prosecutions for sale of adulterated articles of food have been able to stop this nauseous manufacture.

***

THE acting Secretary to the Government of Bombay in the Revenue Department, under date Bombay Castle, 13th September 1895, writes to the President of the Eighth Provincial Conference :—

"In reply to the Memorial addressed by the Eighth Provincial Conference to the Government of India on the subject of the proposed rules for regulating admission to the Bombay Provincial Civil Service, I am directed to state that the first, second and fourth of the requests in the Memorial are identical with (2). (1) and (5) respectively of the prayers contained in paragraph 8 of a Memorial on the subject addressed to the Government of India by the Poona Sarvajanik Sabha, and that the orders of that Government in regard to those prayers are contained in the accompanying extracts from a letter from this Government to the Sabha. I am to add that in the opinion of His Excellency the Governor-General in Council the Memorial from the Conference does not advance any sufficient ground for a reconsideration of these orders. I am further to state that the Governor General in Council is unable to accede to the third request of the Conference."

The extract paragraphs alluded to in the letter are :—

"2. As regards the first prayer of the Sabha that Mamlatdarships may be included in the Bombay Provincial Civil Service, I am to add that the Governor-General in Council has fully considered the matter on this and previous occasions and is altogether unable to apply to

* The call of the jackal is occasionally plaintive in the extreme, resembling the cries of a female, in agony and distress ; at other times, its yells or hootings are, on the contrary, savage and ferocious.

† It is almost superfluous to remind the reader, that the Hindoos burn their dead, the very poorest classes sometimes only half burn the body, and then push it into the stream. Some particular tribes bury their dead ; of these, the Aheers of Gwallahs are one—perhaps the only one. The Mohunts or religious superiors of Boud'h-Gyah are likewise buried ; but then cemetery is the only thing approaching to a Hindoo burial ground, that I recollect to have seen. The Ganges, and its tributary streams may be said to be all but the universal grave of that portion of India, through which they take their course ; where there is no river near, a tank or lake supplies the deficiency. A Hindoo funeral, generally speaking, is attended by no circumstances of pomp or outward show. Four of the male relatives or friends of the deceased take up the charpoy, or low light stretcher, on which the person has died, and on which the body continues to lie, on their shoulders, and convey it to the river side, towards sunset. Firewood has been prepared, and the body is consumed to ashes, which are thrown into the river. On other occasions, persons are taken to the banks of the river to die, when they are considered, to be in a hopeless state, and scenes, on such occasions, are said occasionally to be enacted, which are utterly inconsistent with our ideas of humanity.

Suttees or self-immolation on the piles of their deceased husbands, by Hindoo women, it is now, no doubt, generally known, were utterly abolished by Lord Wm. Bentinck, to his immortal honor.

the Bombay Presidency a different rule from that which has been accepted in other Provinces where the line of demarcation between the Provincial and Subordinate Civil Services has been drawn, in accordance with the recommendation of the Public Service Commission, as to include in the latter service officers of the Tahsildar class to whom the Mamlatdars correspond. The Governor-General in Council, without any under-valuation of the worth of the Bombay Subordinate Civil Service, does not consider that it possesses any better claim to a higher *status* than the Subordinate Civil service in some of the other Provinces; and for this and other more general reasons it would in his opinion be impossible to apply to that service in Bombay any more favourable measure of treatment than is elsewhere approved.

3. On the question of admission of the preferential claims to Deputy Collectorships of graduates in the Revenue line who entered that line under the terms of the notification of this Government No. 6505, dated 17th December 1878, as modified by the notification No. 7105, dated 2nd September 1885, which the Sabha has urged upon the attention of the Government of India, I am to observe that the general principle is that the scheme for the Provincial Service which has for its primary end the establishment of the public service on a basis of thorough efficiency and for its secondary aim the reasonable recognition of the claims of important sections of the community should be introduced with due regard to the vested interests and to the qualifications and the reasonable expectations of individual officers who may be affected in carrying it out.

4. With regard to the second prayer of the Sabha that the competitive test may be raised at least to the level of the B. A. examination of the Bombay University, I am to state that the Government of India agree with this Government that the system of competitive examination proposed in the draft rules referred to by the Sabha should receive a fair trial. Under this system not only have graduates a better chance of being successful than candidates of lower educational attainments, so far as the obligatory subjects of the proposed competitive test are concerned, but in view of the optional subjects included, they will have all the advantage over the latter that they can properly claim.

* * *

6. With reference to the last two prayers of the Sabha concerning the recruitment for the Executive Branch of the Provincial Civil Service, I am to observe that they relate to matters which are still under consideration and which will be dealt with by the Government in accordance with the instructions of the Government of India with due regard to the principle enunciated in paragraph 3 of this letter."

* *

THE Governor-General in Council is pleased to announce that the Secretary of State has sanctioned the extension of the scale of pensions laid down in Article 712 of the Civil Service Regulations to officers appointed from England to the Geological Survey Department. In announcing the sanction, the Governor-General in Council lays down:

"The provisions of that Article are accordingly extended to the officers in question; but inasmuch as the existing rules (Articles 518 to 520 of the Civil Service Regulations) now applicable to officers of the Geological Survey Department are in certain contingencies more advantageous than the scale laid down in Article 712 of the Regulations, His Excellency in Council is pleased to allow every officer of the Department appointed from England, now in the service, the option of choosing between the two scales of pension, and to direct that the new scale shall not be extended to any officer who prefers to remain under the existing rules of his service.

All officers appointed from England to the Geological Survey Department in India, who are now in the service, are accordingly required to state, within a period of six months from the date of this Resolution, whether they prefer to remain under the existing rules which govern their pension, or elect the scale in Article 712 of the Civil Service Regulations. In the event of an officer electing to remain under the existing rules, the privilege of retiring under those rules will be reserved for him so far as he is concerned, and the new scale will not apply to him. In all other cases the old scale of pensions will cease to apply.

The decision arrived at by each officer in India as to the scale of pensions he prefers to abide by should be communicated by the Director to the Government of India in the Revenue and Agricultural Department.

Article 503 of the Civil Service Regulations will apply to members of the Geological Survey whichever scale of pension may be elected; and should any change hereafter be made in respect of their superannuation, no difference will be made between officers on the different scales of pension."

NOTES & LEADERETTES,

OUR OWN NEWS,

&

THE WEEK'S TELEGRAMS IN BRIEF, WITH OCCASIONAL COMMENTS.

PRINCE Lobanoff, the Russian Minister for Foreign Affairs, and General Dragomiroff met with a tremendous reception at the French manœuvres at Mirecourt.

The London papers recognize the presence officially of the Prince at the manœuvres as a proof of the tightening of the alliance between the two countries, which strengthens France militarily and Russia financially.

MRS. Langtry's jewels, valued at £40,000, have been stolen from the Union Bank of London by means of a forged order on the Bank to deliver the jewels to bearer.

ADVICES from Cuba state that the Spanish cruiser Barcaistegui has been sunk after collision with another steamer, off Havana, and that an Admiral, four officers, and thirty-six of the crew were drowned. The rest on board were rescued.

THE French have ordered the people of Kiangtung to either accept the French authorities or cross over to the right bank of the Mekong.

A MONUMENT to Garibaldi was unveiled at Rome on Sep. 20 amid intense enthusiasm. Signor Crispi in a speech insisted that His Holiness the Pope was freer without temporal power, and that Italy would never renounce her hard-won unity.

A TRAIN conveying a Saxon regiment from the German manœuvres to Zwickau collided with a goods train. Thirteen soldiers were killed and sixty injured.

SEVERAL cases of cholera have appeared at Constantinople.

THE engagement of the Duke of Marlborough to Miss Vanderbilt is announced.

THE *Times'* correspondent at Hongkong states that at the annual examinations at Canton for literary degrees and honours the Chancellor distributed to the students rhymed versions of a former Imperial decree enjoining them to kill Christians like beasts.

REPORTS by mail concerning the state of affairs in Madagascar continue to be of the most dismal character. Nevertheless the French advance guard hopes to reach Antananarivo on the 30th instant. The War and Colonial Ministries are openly disputing regarding the responsibility for the mismanagement of the Madagascar expedition Further letters from Madagascar describe the sufferings of the French Army as terrible. Their numbers are daily dwindling, and the hospitals are crowded, over three thousand men being sick Correspondents state that the groans of the coolies are fearful. The French advance column marching on Antananarivo surprised the Hovas on the 15th in a defile at Tsmainontiry, where six thousand men and nine cannon were posted. The French carried the position with a trifling loss, while the Hovas lost eighty in killed and one cannon.

THE British, French and Russian Ambassadors have addressed a strong note to the Porte, repeating their demands for the payment of an indemnity for the attack made lately on the Consuls at Jeddah, and the punishment of the offenders.

THE Portuguese man-of-war Vasco-de-Gama has been despatched to Goa in consequence of the revolt there.

MOROCCO has officially recognised the British Vice-Consul at Fez.

THE latest advices from China state that a German mission station near Swatow has been looted. Considerable excitement prevails throughout Germany over. The papers urge the sending of cruisers to protect the station.

The whole of the province of Shekiang, especially the city of Kinhua, has been posted with anti-foreign placards.

THE relief expedition with Lieutenant Peary and his companions has returned to St. Johns. Lieutenant Peary and his companions, when discovered, were in a pitiable condition and almost starved to death.

NOTHING is known at the India Office of the report published in the *Yorkshire Post* that Lord Elgin will resign next year, possibly in the spring.

THE New York Government bond syndicate has been dissolved, leaving the Treasury to its own resources.

THE *Times*, in discussing the Blue-Book on sanitary measures in India, refers to the ravages of contagious diseases in the Army, and says that it would seem to be one of the first duties of Government to consider how far their responsibilities to the Army and the Nation have been adequately discharged under the present system.

THE *Times* discusses the agitation against the Pilgrim Bill, and says it is not surprising that Indian Mussulmans are deeply stirred in the matter. This, the article states, is another example of embarrassment caused to the Indian Government by measures dictated from Europe. The expansion of Indian legislature has greatly increased the difficulty of passing laws disapproved by the Indian people.

THIS is the last of the four grand days of the Doorga Pooja. Notwithstanding the order of recent years to keep certain offices open at stated hours, Europeans, Mahomedans and Hindus are all on holiday bent. The town is deserted. All business is suspended. The general holiday ends on the 4th October, but the civil courts will not reopen and full business resumed until the 21st October. The Anglo-Indian weekly journal of commerce of this capital will not be issued next week Having worked till now, with greetings of the day, we take our annual respite of two weeks. There will be no issue of the paper on the 5th and 12th October. The next *Reis and Rayyet* will appear on the 19th October.

LORD Elgin leaves Simla on Thursday, the 24th October. During the tour he will hold Levées at Agra on the 25th October, Poona, 11th November, Hyderabad 13th November, Bangalore 19th November, Trichinopoly 2nd December and Madras 7th December, the hours being 9-45 P.M., except at Poona, where the presentation will be at 5 P.M. The other places to be visited are Gwalior, Bhopal, Rozah, Mysore, Madura, and Tanjore. The Viceroy will arrive at Calcutta on Friday, the 13th December

All Civil and Military Officers and Native Officers of the Native Regiments at the stations where Levées will be held are invited to attend. The Notification goes on to say that His Excellency will also be glad to receive other Gentlemen, who should submit their names to the Commissioner of Agra, the Military Secretary to His Excellency the Governor of Bombay, the Resident at Hyderabad, the Resident at Mysore, the Collector of Trichinopoly, and the Military Secretary to His Excellency the Governor of Madras, as the case may be, who will issue cards of admission, which should be shown to the Aid-de-Camp in waiting before the Levée, if required. The dress prescribed is Full or Evening. It is not desirable, however His Excellency the Viceroy may be willing to receive them, to issue cards of admission to each and every applicant. The distinction ought to be reserved for only the admissible Government House Lists are already inconveniently crowded with ineligible names. An attempt ought to be made to purge them of these.

THE Raja of Cochin Sir Vira Kerala Varma, K. C. I. E., is dead. He was born in 1846 and succeeded in the guddee in 1888. His was, therefore, only a seven years' reign, if reign it could be called when he had not the power of the purse which is in the absolute control of the Resident. A mere pensioner, with a weak minister, subservient to the Resident, the Raja of Cochin is a non-entity in his own dominions.

THE little Kyastha community of Dacca is cast in gloom on account of the death, at the early age of 34, of their Chief, Baboo Annoda Prasad Roy Choudhury of Kashimpore. Master of an estate yielding an income of a lakh of rupees, he was charitably disposed and was never satisfied with doing good. He was the idol of all his relatives and familiar acquaintances.

FOLLOWING the example set by the N.-W. P., the District Superintendent of Mymensingh, Bengal, Mr. K. B. Thomas, has started a fund for the aid of indigent ex-convicts of his district. The promised aid amounts to Rs. 7,665, but he requires at least double the sum to start operations. He writes to a local contemporary:—

"In your issue of the 23rd July you kindly published copy of a circular letter issued by me to all Zemindars and leading gentlemen of this District, regarding a Fund for the aid of indigent ex-convicts of the District. At the meeting held on the 3rd ultimo and in reply to my letter Rs. 2,465 has been promised, which brings the amount up to Rs. 7,665: This I need hardly say is not nearly enough to enable me to start the Fund, and unless a sum of at least Rs. 15,000 can be raised, I am afraid I shall have to give up all hopes of seeing the scheme started. A large number of my letter have not even been acknowledged by gentlemen who have large estates in this district. I trust their silence does not mean they do not wish to assist, however I trust they will now give me a reply. Attached is the list of subscription promised at the meeting."

The Police is generally accused of high-handedness. But here is an instance of meekness and helplessness. The Zemindars are now-a-days not disposed to part with their money in aid of a project which has not the support of very high authority and gives no prospect of distinction. Nor is it possible for every one of them to so easily comply with a request of the kind as the District Superintendent wishes. Oftentimes they are Zemindars in name only. A mere reply, again, unaccompanied by a cheque, will not satisfy the Superintendent.

THE *Statesman* of Tuesday reproduces from *Harper's Magazine* an account of the execution of John Palm, a book-seller of Nuremberg, under the orders of Napoleon. The man was perfectly innocent and the story of his unhappy fate became widely known over not only the continent but the British Isles as well. To adopt the words of the writer in the Magazine, "it kindled into patriotic fire the smouldering embers of German nationality." In England, it created almost no impression, although the English press was ever on the watch for giving the widest publicity to incidents furnishing evidence of the cruel disposition of the French Emperor and his utter disregard of considerations of justice. In the literary circles of London the execution of poor Palm was treated with a sort of heartlessness that is painful to contemplate. Wits seized it as even reflecting credit on Napoleon and proving his sympathy with authors. The poet of Hope in particular, he who wept so nobly for fallen Sarmatia and for the dusky millions that were oppressed by the rising British Power in India, himself laughed over this heart-rending execution and caused others to laugh over it. Read the following from Curwen's *History of Book-sellers, the old and the new.* "Poor Campbell had suffered much from the publishers. His 'Pleasures of Hope' had been rejected by every book-seller in Glasgow and Edinburgh; not one of them would even risk paper and printing upon the chance of its success. At last, Messrs. Mundell and Son, printers to the University of Glasgow, with much reluctance undertook the publication, upon the liberal condition of allowing the author fifty copies at trade price, and, in the event of its reaching a second edition, a gratuity of ten pounds. A few years afterwards, when Campbell was present at a literary dinner party, he was asked to give a toast, and without a moment's hesitation he proposed 'Bonaparte.' Glasses were put down untouched, and shouts of 'The Ogre!' resounded. 'Yes, gentlemen,' said Campbell gravely, 'here is to Bonaparte; he has just shot a book-seller!' Amid shouts of applause, for the dinner was in 'Bohemia,' the glasses were jangled and the toast was drunk, for the news had but just arrived that Palm, a book-seller of Nuremberg, had been shot by the Emperor's orders." Let us hope Campbell did not know the details of the case.

Here is the narrative from *Harper's* —

"In the summer of 1806, the year of Jena, there lived in the picturesque old town of Nuremberg a much respected bookseller named John Palm. He received, one day, in the usual course of business, a package of books consigned through him to other booksellers of his neighbourhood; these books were done up in separate packages, addressed to the respective consignees, and John Palm had no other connection with them than arranging for their safe delivery.

Amongst them happened to be one entitled *Germany in Her Day of Shame*; it was a short anonymous work commenting severely upon the manner in which the French military administration pressed upon the people of Bavaria.

One copy was consigned to a bookseller in Augsburg, who allowed his children to read it; through them, however, it fell into the hands of some French officers who were quartered upon the pastor of a neighbouring village, and thus it became known to the higher French authorities. On the 7th of July, 1806, Napoleon ordered John Palm to be tried by court-martial and shot.

This respectable bookseller was so convinced of his own innocence and had such complete proof that he was not the author nor the publisher of the book, and did not even know what the book was about that he refused the abundant opportunities he had of avoiding arrest by escaping into Austria or Prussia.

On the 22nd of August he was locked up in the fortress of Braunau, an Austrian town, garrisoned by French troops, about 200 miles from Nuremberg. He had taken leave of his wife and children, promising a speedy return, and felt confident that his trial would be merely a matter of form, and so it was.

He was given two short hearings. No one was allowed to plead for him, and within two days of entering the fortress he was sentenced to be shot.

At 11 o'clock on the 26th of August he was notified that he was to be shot at 2 o'clock, leaving him barely time to write a few letters to his family and most intimate friends.

The good people of the town begged mercy for him at the knees of the French commandant, ignorant of the fact that this officer was acting not as judge, but as executioner.

At the appointed hour John Palm was placed upon a peasant's cart, and escorted beyond the walls of the town under a strong military escort. His wrists were tied behind his back, and six French soldiers stepped forward, aimed, and fired. Five of the shots missed him; the sixth brought him to the ground with a cry of pain. He struggled to his feet to receive another volley, which again brought him to the ground, crippled and helpless, but not yet dead. Two soldiers now ran quickly forward, placed the muzzles of their muskets against his head, and finished the task with disgusting thoroughness.

The story of John Palm's execution went from mouth to mouth all over Germany, kindling into patriotic fire the smouldering embers of German nationality. Even the Court of Prussia was made to feel that there was in Germany such a thing as public sentiment."

REIS & RAYYET.

Saturday, September 28, 1895.

JURY TRIAL IN INDIA.

In noticing, two years ago, the now famous lecture, at the Chaitanya Library, of Sir Alexander Miller on the origin of trial by Jury, we had ventured to say that it was evidently a feeler put forth for guaging the measure of veneration cherished by the people of this country for jury trial. Without following Sir Alexander into the devious paths of the early legal history of England, we did not hesitate to point out that the Law Member of the Viceregal Council had committed some grave blunders in his account of the celebrated case of the Seven Bishops In the first place, he had spoken of the accused as having admitted publication. As a matter of fact, however, publication had been denied, and the Crown had the greatest difficulty in proving it and could not prove it without violating the royal pledge. Then, the collective nature of the petition had nothing to do with the criminality charged against the Bishops, although Sir Alexander seemed to think that the fact of their having signed the document together had formed one of the elements of the offence. He even went so far as to suggest an analogy between the charge against the Bishops and the rule which is in force in India against collective petitions by Government servants. He had, again, named Hallam and Macaulay as his authorities for the version he gave of the secrets of the jury room, although, as we pointed out, the learned historian of the British constitution has not, in any of his works, devoted a single sentence to the details of that case, very properly referring his readers to general histories of England, and although Macaulay's account is totally different from the lecturer's. We openly doubted whether Sir Alexander had really read Macaulay, for it was impossible to believe that anybody, after having perused, even once, the brilliant and highly picturesque narrative of Macaulay could so far forget it as to actually confound, after the manner of Sir Alexander Miller, king James' brewer with the butcher of his own conjuring and ascribe the verdict of "not guilty" to the butcher's pertinacity when, as a matter of fact, it was the brewer,—or the butcher if Sir Alexander would have it so,—that had displayed the dogged determination of convicting notwithstanding the wish of all his colleagues to acquit. Such a derangement of epitaphs was scarcely possible for a scholar and jurist like the Law Member to indulge in, especially while delivering a public lecture at a native Institute, with the Chief Justice of the Calcutta High Court presiding. Sir Alexander Miller had the candour to explain, in a letter he addressed, not to us but to another journal, that he had not read Macaulay "for the last forty years." Indeed, he cried "peccavi" and admitted some of his blunders, passing over others in silence. He sought, however, to qualify his admissions and minimise the gravity of the blunders by the remark that they in no way affected his general argument. We did not think it fit to join issue with him on this, content with his admission that "trial by jury, as it exists in India, is less detrimental to the due administration of justice than it is in the United Kingdom." The learned Law Member denied the correctness of our surmise that his lecture had been "intended as a manifesto sent forth to cover the Elliottic blunder and to prepare the way for a similar change in Bombay and Madras." To every word of this, he gave "the most emphatic contradiction that the laws of politeness admitted." Unfortunately for us, we were not prepared for the acceptance of this emphatic disclaimer. We did not doubt the veracity of Sir Alexander Miller in the least. The situation, however, was such that even if Sir Alexander did not act from any such intention, he fairly laid himself open to the charge. The whole country was in a ferment about Sir Charles Elliott's blundering notification. It was being denounced from both the platform and the press in every quarter. The cultured section of the European community in India sympathised with the natives in their alarm and anxiety. At such a juncture of affairs, the Law Member of the Supreme Legislative Council of India thought it fit to deliver a discourse, under the presidency of the Chief Justice of the Bengal High Court, in which, among other things, he laboured to establish the points that, after all, trial by jury was not a very ancient institution, that it did not come from the free air and the forests of Germany, that "the idea, now so deeply rooted in many minds, that there is some natural connection between trial by jury and British liberty, is negatived by antecedent history," that it was really an institution of which the English people could not very well be proud, and, lastly, that there was a ridiculous incident connected with the history of its turning point inasmuch as it was a burly butcher whose obstinacy alone could be said to have saved English liberty. The whole country, with a unity of voice that was remarkable, was arguing for establishing the importance of trial by jury, for showing the dangers to which the community would be exposed if such trial were withdrawn, and for pointing out that there was a peculiar cruelty in taking away the privilege after having generously accorded it to the people and that at a time when no evidence was forthcoming to prove that the privilege had in any way been abused in the enjoyment. They were fortifying their assertions by citing the opinions of such among the judicial officers of the realm as had chosen to express themselves on the question at the time of the previous amendment of the

Code of Criminal Procedure. There was a peculiar unfitness in the selection of that time by the very head of the legislative machinery of the empire for telling the people that it was, after all, a mere toy upon whose acquisition they had set their hearts. Sir Alexander Miller might have discussed the question as one of mere speculative interest. Indeed, after his emphatic asseveration that it was even so, no one that was not absolutely a boor could possibly refuse to accord him the fullest credit. Sir Alexander Miller, however, it cannot be denied, showed an absolute want of judgment in delivering even a speculative discourse on what was the burning question of the hour. Our surmise was one of the direct consequences of that absence of judgment on his part. The time, the subject, the manner of treating it, were all against the supposition that the Law Member of the Government of India intended to offer the public only an academic thesis without the slightest possibility of any of his conclusions being practically adopted for the amendment of the existing law.

The Bill introduced by Sir Alexander Miller into the Supreme Council for amending the provisions, in the Code of Criminal Procedure, on trial by jury, contains views which were first set forth by Sir Alexander Miller in the speculative lecture to which we have referred. While admitting, without the slightest reservation, that Indian juries are less detrimental to the due administration of justice than juries in the United Kingdom, the present effort of Sir Alexander Miller seems to be rather Quixotic. As the head of the legislative machinery of this extensive empire, Sir Alexander is evidently ambitious of improving juries to an extent not yet reached in the British Isles. Half the evils of India are traceable to this ambition of Indian officials to achieve something in their respective departments that has not been achieved as yet in their mother country. The mechanism of administration in the United Kingdom is such that no man there is able to tamper with any institution by seeking to reduce his own fads into practice. In India the case is different. This is the land of experiments, the country where bricks are attempted to be made without straw and sun beams sought to be extracted from cucumbers, and where officials make themselves miserable in view of ills as remote and imaginary as those that moved the men of science of Laputa. The Law Member has sketched his programme for enhancing the usefulness of juries. But the main question has not yet been answered to the satisfaction of the public, however satisfactorily Sir Alexander Miller may have answered it to himself, the question, *viz.*, whether that plan will not really improve juries off this dependency of the British Crown? The Law Member seems to imagine that juries should not have the power of bringing in general verdicts in criminal trials. It is the old, old controversy that raged in England for many years till it was settled by Fox's Libel Act of 1792. Those who are acquainted with the history of that controversy know that while servile judges and courtly lawyers held the view that in prosecutions for libel the function of the jury was simply to find the fact or otherwise of publication including the filling in of innuendos, the question of libel or no libel being determinable by the judges alone, 'others of great name in our jurisprudence," to quote the words of the historian of the British Constitution, "and the majority of the public at large, conceiving that this would throw the liberty of the press altogether into the hands of the judges, maintained that the jury had a strict right to take the whole matter into their consideration, and determine the defendant's criminality or innocence according to the nature and circumstances of the publication." How the doctrine, at once servile and inimical to the liberty of the press, had to be given up notwithstanding its support by Lord Mansfield and Thurlow, is well-known to the student of legal history. Lord Campden, a name more glorious than that of Lord Mansfield, who was the author of the Bill introduced by Fox, vigorously knocked it on the head. Soon after Lord Mansfield's charge to the jury, affirming this opinion in the case of *Rex.* v. *Woodfall* which arose upon the publication of Junius's Letter to the King, Serjeant Glynn and others exposed its mischievous consequences in the powerful speeches they made in the Lower House of Parliament. Sir Alexander Miller's project is nothing less than to deprive, in effect, Indian juries of the power of returning general verdicts not only in cases of libel but in other cases as well that are, under the Indian law —which really means the will of the Executive Government for the time being as expressed by notifications in the *Gazette*,—triable by juries. Among the amendments proposed by Sir Alexander Miller the most important one is contained in Section 3 of the Bill, by which power is given to the judges to dispense altogether with general verdicts and require juries to return what are called special verdicts on particular questions of fact which the judges shall present to them. Can there be a doubt that, armed with such powers, judges, when they choose to differ from the jury as regards the criminality of the accused, will always insist upon the return of special verdicts? The fact is, Sir Alexander Miller's ideas regarding the utility of juries in criminal trials are unquestionably different from those generally entertained by the soundest of jurists, British or Continental. That the Home Member of Lord Lansdowne's Government, who was only an Indian Civilian, should misunderstand the true functions of the jury and class it with those institutions that exist under all Governments for the repression of crime, was no wonder. Indian Civilians, with rare exceptions, are not noted for their proficiency in law or legal history. Mr. Hutchins, in particular, was not known to have made criminal jurisprudence a special study. It is one thing, however, to find an ordinary Indian Civilian misconceiving the true functions of the jury in criminal trials, and quite another to see a lawyer and jurist of Sir Alexander Miller's reputation commit the same blunder. The fact is, in most civilised countries, after the commission of a crime and a preliminary investigation by the Police ending in an accusation against a particular individual, the real task that the Crown undertakes, when it puts the accused person before a Court of justice, is not simply to shew the existence of facts inconsistent with the supposition of his innocence but to satisfy a definite number of men endued with ordinary intelligence that the prisoner standing before them has actually committed the offence charged against him. It is one thing to think a man guilty and another to prove him so legally. Juries do not exist for repressing crimes. Their function, on the other hand, is to declare, on the evidence collected and adduced by the Crown, whether that evidence is sufficient to convict. Popular in its constitution, popular in its senti-

ments and very prejudices, and mingling with the mass of the people after its temporary duty is discharged, the jury not unoften stands between the Crown and the people in state prosecutions where the object is to break a publicist or politician obnoxious to the administration for the time being. Whether arising out of the provisions in dog Latin of the Magna Carta, or owning an origin traceable to the free air and the forests of Germany, no better safeguard could the ingenuity of man devise against the oppression of power. Obvious as these considerations are, they are frequently ignored in India. They were ignored on the last occasion by the Home Member of the Government of India. On the present occasion they are ignored by the learned Law Member.

Under the existing law, the verdict of the jury in India is not final. The trying judge, when he sees reason to differ from the jury, is at liberty to refer the case to a higher tribunal. That tribunal, again, has the power of taking up the case as one in appeal. It is not hampered, in even the slightest degree, by the verdict of the jury, from going behind it and weighing quite independently the evidence for and against in its own scale. These are sufficient safeguards against any miscarriage of justice. So great is the respect paid to the verdict of the jury in the United Kingdom that there judges are bound to accept it however perverse. No machinery exists for correcting those perverse verdicts. In India, it seems, that those responsible for her laws are not satisfied with even the existing safeguards. They must proceed further. They are for effecting the impossible, *viz.*, the absolute prevention of miscarriage of justice in every case. In seeking to effect that object, they do not mind how they degrade the jury.

An obvious effect of the proposed amendments will be the reluctance of men, with ideas of self-respect, to serve on the jury. One serving on a jury has the right to know as to whether he is trusted or not. There ought to be but one answer to his query. Either trust him completely or dismiss him to attend to his own affairs. A certain series of facts constitute the offence of theft. The removal, with dishonest intention, of movable property belonging to another, is the essence of the offence. If a jury can be trusted with finding the facts of removal and intention, there is no earthly reason why it should not be trusted with the power of saying whether those facts do, in its estimation, actually amount to the commission of the offence stated. The analogy, drawn from the functions of the jury in civil cases in the United Kingdom, does not at all apply to its functions in criminal trials. The laws of property and personal status are often very intricate. Take, for example, the simplest cases, *viz*, those arising out of the law of Limitation. A jury may be asked to find as to whether the plaintiff has or has not resided for 12 years in the house claimed by him. Supposing the finding is the negative, the inference does not follow that the plaintiff's rights have been barred. Possession in law is a highly complicated question. One may be in legal possession of one's house, although not residing in it for the statutory period. The fact, again, of one's having gone through a ceremony of marriage with another may be proved or found, yet the legality of the marriage may not follow from such finding. The most intricate considerations of law may have to be disposed of before the marriage can be declared legal or otherwise. Then, in civil causes, the same facts are very often relied upon by both the plaintiff and the defendant, and inferences diametrically opposed to each other, are often drawn from them. Under such circumstances, juries cannot very well be asked to return general verdicts for this or that side. They should return only special verdicts affirming the existence of certain facts. How often are those special verdicts relied upon by both sides as favouring their view of the law cannot be unknown to a lawyer of Sir Alexander Miller's reputation.

It is difficult to remove the impression, that has become rather general, that the trial of criminal offences by jury in India is an eye-sore to officials of a certain class. The constant endeavours to tamper with the institution are responsible for that impression. How often we hear people say that, unable to repeal it openly, all sorts of insidious attempts are made to take away the substance and leave only the shadow !

INDIA AND CHITRAL.

THE TALE OF THE BLUE-BOOK.

In a despatch from the Government of India to the Secretary of State, dated June 11, 1877, it is related how the Mehtar of Chitral tendered allegiance to the Maharaja of Kashmir, and how the representatives of Chitral and Yassin formally confirmed that tender at the Delhi assembly. The Khan of Dir wished at the same time to become tributary to Kashmir, but he afterwards proposed obedience to the Amir of Kabul. The Mehtar communicated this fact to the Maharaja, and said all the neighbouring Chiefs were submitting to the Amir, and that he himself was left too isolated and too weak to resist without assistance the pressure which he expected from a Kabul agent then on his way to Chitral.

RESISTING KABUL.

The despatch says : In reply His Excellency in Council authorized the Maharaja to instruct the Chitral Chief to resist the claims of Kabul and to furnish him with the means of doing so, relying, if necessary upon the support of the British Government. At the same time, under the instruction of His Excellency in Council, a letter was addressed by the Commissioner of Peshawar to the Amir at Kabul, warning him against any endeavour to assume sovereignty over Bajour, Swat, Dir or Chitral, and reminding His Highness that as the British Government had never recognized his claim to allegiance from those States, to enforce it without the assent of that Government would be regarded as an unfriendly act. In a despatch dated February 28, 1879, the Government of India said : Our object is to acquire through the ruler of Kashmir the power of making such political and military arrangements as will effectually command the passes of the Hindu Kush. With this object we shall take every opportunity of strengthening our control over the country lying south of the mountain slopes, and of attaching the Chiefs, through Kashmir, to British interests. It was added that the Chitral engagement with Kashmir would be drawn as close as possible, and the despatch concluded : Although we desire to realize our plans gradually by pacific means, we shall nevertheless consider it from the first incumbent upon the Government of India to prevent at any cost the establishment within this outlying country of the political preponderance of any other Power, nor do we anticipate that any such interference with our legitimate authority will be attempted in earnest so soon as it shall have become known that we have marked out a clear and consistent frontier, and that we intend to maintain it.

DEALING WITH UMRA KHAN.

Later despatches show how the Gilgit agency was established, and describe the course of events in Hunza, Nagar, Chitral and Bajour. Attempts to open negociations with Umra Khan are mentioned, and in a despatch, dated December 28th, 1892, it is said :—Umra Khan has been told that the Government of India never approved of his interference in Chitral affairs, and that his sending a force into the country before the Government of India had received information as the state of affairs might have very embarrassing results. This referred to the seizure of the southern part of the Chitral valley, an effectual attack upon Drosh Fort. In a despatch, dated September 1st, 1893, the Secretary of State, in sanctioning the retention of Captain Younghusband as Political Officer in Chitral, as a temporary measure,

said: In regard to Chitral it has been the consistent policy of Government of India to exclude from that country not merely the control but even the influence of the Amir of Afghanistan; but apart from the evils which might result from Chitral falling under Afghan influence or domination, it is obvious that the near prospect of the Russian occupation extending to the north bank of the Punja, which is less than a day's march from the Chitral frontier, renders it a matter of importance to us to be able to control the external affairs of Chitral. I cannot agree that it would be a wise policy to give the Amir suzerainty over Chitral. It would be unjustifiable to deprive Kashmir of her acknowledged right of suzerainty over that State in order to hand it over to an Afghan ruler. Lord Kimberley at this period said: It would be premature to decide on the permanent political and military arrangements for that part of the frontier. This view was confirmed in a despatch from the Secretary of State dated August 3rd, 1894.

THE RELIEF OF CHITRAL.

Telegraphic despatches of March, 1895, follow, showing how the 1st division was mobilized to effect the relief of Dr. Robertson's party in Chitral Fort. The Secretary of State on March 30th wired: As soon as present trouble is over, policy with regard to Chitral and neighbourhood will have to be fully and carefully reconsidered. Meantime our hands should be kept perfectly free. I hope therefore that you will take care that nothing is said or done to commit Government either way with regard to making new roads or retention of posts now occupied or occupation of new posts. In a long despatch, dated April 17th, the Government of India gave a narrative of the events which led up to the situation at that time.

VIEWS OF THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

On April 18th they wired that they were agreed that a military occupation of Chitral supported by a road to the Peshawar border was a matter of the first importance. If such road was not opened they had not unanimously come to a conclusion in regard to the expediency of occupying Chitral, but they were unanimous in asking the permission to enter into negociations with the tribes with a view to obtaining their consent to the opening up of this road when, in the opinion of the Government, an opportunity should arise in connection with Sir Robert Low's advance. In their opinion it would be a serious mistake to lose that opportunity.

MR. FOWLER'S REPLY.

The Secretary of State in reply pointed out that recent events had shown the peril of maintaining a British officer with an escort in Chitral, so long as he could be only supported *via* Gilgit. He continued: I wish you to consider and advise me whether the strategical and political importance of Chitral is such, in your opinion, as to render it desirable in the face of these difficulties in the way of the main objects of our past policy in Chitral, which, as I understand, were to control its external affairs in a direction friendly to our interests to secure an effective guardianship over its northern passes, and to watch what goes on beyond them. Also whether you can suggest any method of securing these objects less costly and less hazardous than that lately in force. In a telegram, dated April 25, the Secretary of State said he had no objection to the tribes being sounded as the terms and conditions on which they would consent to the opening up and maintaining of the Peshwar-Chitral road should this road be hereafter decided upon, but he did not wish to be committed to the policy of a military occupation of Chitral; or of maintaining a British officer there permanently, with or without the support of this road, until Her Majesty's Government had had an opportunity of fully considering detailed views and arguments.

FURTHER CORRESPONDENCE.

The Viceroy telegraphing on the same day, said: Narrative of events indicates complete withdrawal under present circumstances impossible, as it would leave the country to complete anarchy and would render a settlement more difficult. In our opinion we must also keep open the road from Peshawar for some time, probably three or four months at least, whatever the ultimate decision may be. The Secretary of State on April 27 wired that he did not object to any temporary arrangements which the Government of India considered necessary. On May 8th the Government of India sent a despatch, in which they said that two alternatives were placed before them---they must maintain their position in Chitral, or change their policy, and abandon the attempt to keep any effective control over the external affairs of the State. In this despatch they said: It seems to us to be demonstrated that the maintenance of our influence over Chitral is a matter of the first importance; that to abandon Chitral to the possibility of foreign occupation would involve a risk which we ought not to run; that giving the country over the Afghanistan does not guard India, and would increase the difficulty of our frontier relations with the Amir; and that it would be unjustifiable to ignore our pledges to preserve the suzerainty of Kashmir. Events have, however, greatly changed the conditions under which we cannot hope to maintain that influence.

THE CASE OF SHER AFZUL.

Sher Afzul, an aspirant to the Mehtarship, has ostentatiously departed from the policy of his predecessors in not placing himself under British protection and guidance. He came trusting to the strength of a foreign invader, Umra Khan of Jhandol, perhaps to the power which he believed to be at that invader's back, and ventured to dictate his terms to the British Agent, and to offer his friendship as a favour. Together they raised the country against us, attacked our troops, and cut them off in the defiles, where nature lent strength to their attack; entrapped our officers by treachery and deceit, and laid vigorous seige to the last strongholds in the country whether any of our troops maintained themselves. The events which have culminated in the gallant defence of Chitral and the costly measures taken for relief, both from the north and the south, render it, in our opinion, impossible that we can ever think of maintaining British influence in that country again without the presence of British troops. In concluding this despatch of Government said. We are fully conscious that the course which we recommend may involve the Government in expense which the finances of India can ill afford, and in an increase of responsibilities with the tribes on our north-west frontier which we would fain avoid. It may be possible to lessen these objections. If amicable relations can be established with the tribes, not only would it be easier to retain them for the autonomy which we should desire to conserve, but the cost of thus securing the defence of our frontier may be greatly reduced. In any event the interests are so large that it is our plain duty to lay before you the conclusions at which, after full consideration, we have arrived.

MR. FOWLER'S DECISION.

On June 13th the Secretary of State telegraphed: Her Majesty's Government have given most careful consideration to the question of the future policy in regard to Chitral, and to your letter of 8th May. They fully appreciate your point of view and it is with regret they find themselves unable to concur in the opinion of your Government too which in all matters, they attach great weight. They have decided that no military force or European Agent shall be kept at Chitral that Chitral shall not be fortified, and that no road shall be made between Peshawar and Chitral. It will follow that all positions beyond our frontier now held in consequence of recent relief operations should be evacuated as speedily as circumstances allow, but dates and details are left to your discretion. As regards Chitral State, they request that in view of the decision above stated you will telegraph what are the arrangements which you would recommend for the future. Any proposal which you may make will receive most careful attention from Her Majesty's Government.

THE VICEROY'S REGRET.

The Viceroy wired on July 14: We deeply regret, but loyally accept your decision. We are earnestly considering questions placed before us. On June 22nd the Viceroy wired the arrangements proposed for evacuation. Their proposals were to divide Katur from the Kushwakht country, but to maintain the suzerain rights of Kashmir over both; to withdraw Shuja-ul-Mulk, as his life would not be safe if he were left behind, and to bring him to India; to invite the Katuri headmen to elect a Mehtar, excluding the candidature of Sher Afzul, on account of the grave suspicions of his complicity in acts of treachery as well as of hostility; to propose to the Kushwachtis to elect a separate man; to withdraw the Assistant British Agent from the Katur country when Chitral is evacuated and from the Kushwakht country as soon as circumstances permitted; to maintain control of the country east of the Shandur Pass by Kashmir troops; and to reserve the question of retaining Kashmir troops in Mastuj until a form of administration had been determined for the Kushwakht country. The despatch concluded: It will be necessary to reward the chiefs of the tribes who have befriended us in the advance from Peshawar to Chitral. Sir Robert Low proposes giving the Khan of Dir 50 sniders, some ammunition, Rs. 25,000, and Rs. 10,000 per annum. We propose to approve of the annual allowance being only paid if the Khan can, without our assistance, maintain his position in Dir. We have asked for a report with regard to other chiefs and Jhandol. These proposals, if sanctioned, will admit of our taking immediate action, and we consider delay in every way most undesirable.

THE QUESTION RE-OPENED.

The next telegram was from the Secretary of State after the change of Government at home. It was dated July 2nd, and ran: Present Government must consider Chitral question. How long can you wait for decision without grave inconvenience? On the following day the estimated expenditure to the end of June beyond the provision in the Budget and of the monthly expenditure were

asked for. The Government of India, replying, said the troops could not be withdrawn in any case till September. The estimated expenditure to June 30 was 145 lakhs beyond the Budget provision. The monthly expenditure was 22½ lakhs.

LORD G. HAMILTON ASSENTS TO RETENTION.

On August 1st the Secretary of State asked: Assuming satisfactory road arrangements and a good fortified position, what is the minimum strength of the proposed garrison of Chitral? What is the minimum force you would leave at Mastuj supposing Chitral were evacuated? The Viceroy replied that open negotiations with the tribes had been avoided, but the reports received warranted the confident expectation that a peaceful arrangement for the road could be made. A garrison was proposed of the strength which has since been made known. The road was to be held from Chakdara to Drosh by levies, probably 250 from Swat and 500 from Dir. The bridges at Chakdara and Chutiatan were said by General Low to be sufficient, with minor additions, to last seven years. The despatch added: The Commander-in-Chief assures me that this scheme was drawn up to meet all eventualities, including even the necessity of holding the road in force next year while the supplies and reliefs are going up, though he thinks this unlikely. No addition to the Army is asked. As to Mastuj, it was said that the Commander-in-Chief concurred in the objections to garrisoning it if Chitral were evacuated. On August 9th the Secretary of State telegraphed his assent to the proposals made, but said: "Make no permanent arrangement for a cantonment on the Malakand and neighbourhood until fuller details both of cost and numbers can be sent home. Do nothing in any way to infringe the terms of the Proclamation." On August 10 the Viceroy wired: "We have informed General Low of the decision of Her Majesty's Government, and have authorized the commencement of negotiations with the Swat Khans and the Khan of Dir, assuring them again that all we wish is to open the road, to insist on order being maintained along it, but to leave to the people their independence, and not annex their country.

STATEMENT OF REASONS.

The Blue-book concludes with a despatch from the Secretary of State, dated August 16th, in which the whole position is reviewed. Referring to the proposals made when Sir Henry Fowler ordered the evacuation, it is remarked that it was clear that the policy of abandonment would not cease with the mere evacuation of the territory of Chitral. One of the main objects of the establishment of the Gilgit Agency was the facilities it would afford in watching over and keeping under control to the Chitral and Mastuj valleys, which lead to the easiest and most important passes over the Hindu Kush. To abandon these objects would be to deprive the Gilgit Agency of its main value, while the cost of its maintenance would be as heavy as before. Gilgit and its Agency would, under these conditions, cease to be worth maintenance, and the whole country would probably lapse into disorder and disturbance.

DELIMITATION AND DANGER.

The delimitation of the frontiers between the Indian empire and neighbouring Governments has of recent years been more accurately defined, and it seems more than probable that if your Government had in these districts by its retirement announced its inability to discharge its previous functions, other authorities would step in and undertake the duties thus cast off. This was the state of affairs which Her Majesty's Government had to consider on taking office, and the serious objections involved in your alternative proposals, illustrating as they do the difficulties inseparable from giving effect to the policy of abandonment, have led Her Majesty's Government again to examine the proposals contained in your telegram of April 18th the letter of May 8th. It seemed to the Government that the policy which has been continuously pursued by successive Governments in their relations with Chitral ought not lightly to be abandoned unless its maintenance had become clearly impossible. Your Government had said before that to abandon Chitral was to forego the advantages of that policy, and that no middle course was possible; and it is certain that the alternative course proposed in your telegram of June 2nd would not have sufficed to secure those advantages, and indeed was open to much of the objection which, in your letter of May 8th, you attach to abandonment. Nor did it seem to Her Majesty's Government that recent events had in any way decreased the the necessity for adhering to the above line of policy.

A WATCHFUL POLICY NECESSARY.

If it was neccessary, owing to the situation on the frontier in 1892, to strengthen the Chitral Agency for the express purpose of keeping a closer watch on the Chitral frontier, the neccessity of maintaining that watch is no less obvious at the present day. The advance of Russia to the line of the Oxus, and that of the Amir to the eastern border of Kafristan are not likely to diminish the tension which has in past years prevailed on this part of the frontier. Moreover Her Majesty's Government attached considerable importance to the argument that our withdrawal at such a moment could scarcely fail to have a demoralizing effect, not only upon the tribes concerned, but throughout the whole frontier, the population of which would ascribe our retirement to inability to maintain the advantage who had gained in the recent military operations. The Secretary of State goes on to say that doubt was felt as to the possibility of opening up the Peshawar-Chitral road by peaceful means, and maintaining it without an intolerable burden of expenditure being imposed on Indian finances. That doubt had been removed if the officers of the Government of India had rightly estimated the conditions, and with its removal the main obstacle to the acceptance of the unanimous recommendation of May 8th had been cleared away.

A FEW INCHES OF PLAIN ENGLISH.

NOWADAYS men are doing all sorts of wonders by means of electricity, both in mechanics and in chemistry. I see by the papers that they expect to be able to produce real diamonds by it. Perhaps they may; marvels never cease. But we will wait till they do before we crow over that job. Up to this time, anyway, everything that is both valuable and useful is the fruit of hard work. Even diamonds are mostly got out of rocky mines. And, within reasonable limits, it is good for us to have to work. Ten shillings honestly earned is better for a man than twenty in the shape of a legacy.

The best condition of things for any country would be when fair wages could be earned straight along, without loss or deduction for any reason. But in the present aspect of human affairs this is impossible. Whose fault it is we cannot now discuss.

One source of loss, however, is plain enough, and some remedy for it ought to be found. In England and Wales every working man averages ten days of illness per year, making the total loss of wages from this cause about £16,000,000 a year. We are talking of the *average*, you see. But inasmuch as *all* working-men are not ill every year, this average does not fairly show the suffering and loss of those who *are* ill. In any given year many will lose no time at all, while others may lose individually from ten days to six months each. No charity, no savings, no income from clubs,&c., can make up for this—even in money alone to say nothing of the pain and the misery.

Alluding to an experience of his in 1888 Mr. George Lagdon says, "I had to give up my work." How this came to pass he tells us in a letter dated from his home in White House Road, Stebbing, near Dunmow, August 24, 1892. He had no inherited disease or weakness, so far as he knew and was always strong and well up to April of that year—1888. Then his strength and energy began to leave him. He felt tired, not as from work, but as from power gone out of him through some bodily failure. He sat down to his meals, but not with his old eagerness and relish. There was a nasty copper-like taste in his mouth, his teeth and tongue were covered with slime, and his throat clogged with a kind of thick phlegm, difficult to "hawk up" and eject.

He also speaks of a nagging pain in the stomach, flatulency, and much palpitation of the heart as having been among his symptoms. As the ailment—whatever it was—progressed he began to have a hacking cough which, he says, seemed as if it must shake him to pieces. He could scarcely sleep on account of it. One of the most alarming features of his illness, however, were the night sweats, for the reason that they showed the existence of a source of weakness which must soon, unless arrested, end in total prostration. In fact he was obliged to give up his work altogether. To him—as to any one active man—this was like being buried alive.

One doctor whom Mr. Lagdon consulted said he was consumptive, and it did indeed look that way. "For twelve weeks," he says, "I went on like this, getting weaker and weaker, and having reason to believe that it would end in my taking the one journey from which no traveller returns.

"It was now July—summer time, when life to the healthy is so pleasant and full of hope. At this time my sister-in-law got from Mr. Linsells (Stebbing) a medicine that I had not tried yet. After having used one bottle I felt better, and when I had used the second I was cured, and *have not lost an hour's work since*"

The reader will notice that between the date of his taking this medicine and the date of his letter there is an interval of four years. We may, therefore, infer that his cure was real and permanent. The medicine, by the way, was Mother Seigel's Curative Syrup. It is not likely he will forget its name nor what it did for him. His disease was indigestion and dyspepsia, the deadly enemy of every labouring man or woman under the sun, no matter what they work *at* or work *with*—hands, brains, or both.

Is it necessary to draw a "moral"—school-book style—from these facts? No, it is not. We have talked plain English, and that is enough.

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Reis and Rayyet

(PRINCE & PEASANT)

WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

VOL. XIV. CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 19, 1895. WHOLE NO. 695.

CONTEMPORARY POETRY.

THE SUNYASSEE.

BY JAMES HUTCHINSON.

CANTO FIRST.

(Continued from p. 459.)

XVIII.

Oh! how I longed, for morning's light,
To banish the dark clouds of night;
I had small thought, if it might wake
All nature, fresh delight to take,
Bright'ning the mountain tops, and vales,
Bearing their fragrance, on its gales,
Bidding the bird, on wanton wing,
Its sweet, and cheerful carol sing,
The flower unfold its bosom fair,
And [illegible]
Such thoughts are of the heart's seeking
And had no place or home, in mine,
I thought but of it, as a thing,
That some relief, from doubt, might bring.
It came at last; I gazed around,
But not a gleam of solace found;
The stream told nothing, and the shore
Left all uncertain, as before;—
I struggled on, and sought to cope,
With failing strength, and failing hope;
With faltering steps, my path pursued;
But still, in purpose, unsubdued.

XIX.

At last, the sun set;—and with him,
The ray, that cheered my heart, grew dim;
Just then, I reached a barren place,
An almost herbless waste of sand,
But strewed instead, with many a trace
Of drift, and wrack, along the strand,
And farther on, with murky glare,
I saw the red flames beat the air,
And high, their flickering columns throw,
And figures moving, to and fro,
Dark, and of more than common height,
That seemed to aid, and feed their might—
More near—a single tree there grew,
Or blighted stood, that high in air,
Its leafless branches threw,
The raven, and the vulture there,
Sat perched, upon one bough;
The huge crane too; while down below,
The jackal, and the wild dog wait *
With watchful eye, and suppliant gait.

XX.

'Twas then, my spirit sank, and fell;
Soon, as I saw that fatal fire,
That twilight blaze, I knew it well,
It was a Hindoo's funeral pyre;
But whose, I was afraid to ask;
For so my heart foreboded woe;
At last, I ventured, on the task,
And heard, what most I feared to know.
They said, the corpse the river bore,
And cast it, on that lonely shore,
And, that it wore the female form,
Youthful, and lovely, even in death,
Without a trace of pain or harm,
To mark, how it had ceased to breathe;
And more, that in its gentle hand,
It still held fast a flowery band;
Such garland, of the Champuc's flowers,
I gave, that night, in our last hours; †
Yet still I tried to hope retain,
Vain hope! she came no more again!

XXI.

They said, that for some silly dream,
Or to fulfil some augury,
That they had sought the flooded stream,
And finding there, a corpse left dry,
Without a friend, or kindred ties,
They had performed its obsequies.
I gazed a moment, on the pile,
All! all! was o'er—the flame was low,
But still the quivering embers glow;
I thought me of the lone, green isle,
Then turned away, and wept,
As to the fountains of the eyes,
The heart's own tear drops seemed to rise,

* The huge adjutant bird, (the argeela,) is here alluded to. Scenes like that described in the text, if not more horrible, are by no means uncommon; indeed, between Calcutta and the mouth of the Hooghly, they may be daily witnessed. Perhaps a dog and some vultures are disputing over some carcass, human or other, the crows keeping at a respectful distance, or displaying their activity, by snatching a hasty mouthful, while two or three adjutants, already gorged and sated, are perched aloft, on the topmost boughs of the tree adjacent. Sometimes, a corpse is to be seen rapidly carried along by the stream, while a solitary vulture goes passenger, busily employed, in making a hearty meal, as he sails along.

† The Champuc is a sweet smelling flower, held in great estimation by the Hindoos. It is of a yellow color, and the tree, which bears it, grows to a large size, or at any rate to one larger, than that generally attained, by flowering shrubs. These garlands the natives of India make by stringing the flowers of plants, generally of one particular plant, on a thread, in the same manner, as we make a necklace or rosary.

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And still, out-pouring kept.
Her ashes, all that now remained,
Of her I loved, I gathered there,
And mingled them, with spices rare,
And with my tears that rained;
Then gave them to the passing stream,
And I alas! have mourned her well,
As many a lonely hour can tell,
Since that, too fatal, dream.

XXII.

Broken in heart, and worn with pain,
I sought my former haunts again;
But with a hope, that time would prove
A softener of the grief, I bore,
Or, that it might perhaps remove.
What it hath, since, but fixed the more.
Cursed with a spirit, proud and shy,
I had few friends, might vex or bless;
I had enough, nor sought to try;
If I might make them, more or less;
For my own mind, with dreams was rife,
Of scenes, and forms, from mimic life,
And sought companionship from none,
But mused on times, and tales by-gone;
Still I could see, that of the few,
I had, the number still less grew;
As if, there were some mystery,
Some guilt or shame, they knew not what;
Nor cared,—so they had cause for hate,
Or sought to have,—which is the same:
I scorned them, nor would undeceive;
What could the foolish men believe,
That I would link my Lilloo's name,
For their regards, with scorn or blame?
'Tis true, I panted to avenge
Her cruel, and untimely fate,
But I could trust to my revenge,
That day should come, or soon or late.—
Their follies I could laugh to scorn;
But vainly sought to find relief,
For my own heart, that inly torn,
Bled, o'er its first, and deepest grief;
Each scene, I saw, recalled the past,
And that, the one which was her last;
Tho' foes might, well, have pitied me,
From friends, I met but calumny;
I left the place, but inly swore,
That I would visit it, once more.

(To be continued.)

WEEKLYANA.

THE largest plant in London is the Victoria Regia water-lily at the Botanical Gardens. It covers a surface of 400 square feet and has ten gigantic leaves measuring over seven feet in diameter

***

THE half-a-dozen richest men in the world, according to the *New York World*, are

Li Hang Chang.
John D. Rockfeller.
The Duke of Westminster.
Col. North.
Cornelius Vanderbilt.
Woh Qua.

The last, like the first, is a Chinaman and is a tea merchant. Of the remaining four, two are Americans and two Englishmen.

***

THE Viceroy will arrive at Calcutta by R. I. M. S. *Warren Hastings*, about noon on Friday, the 13th of December. The arrival will be private, without any guard of honour. Only the Commissioner of Police and the Chairman of the Calcutta Corporation will receive him at Prinsep's Ghat. Of course a salute will be fired. A detachment of the GovernorGeneral's Bodyguard will escort Lord Elgin to Government House.

***

THE Levée will be held on Monday, the 16th December, at 9 30 P. M. Cards should be sent to the Aid-de-Camp in Waiting not later than Wednesday, the 4th December. A change is announced as regards new presentations. It has been recently ruled, though that rule is not strictly enforced, that, as in Drawing Rooms, presenters at Levées should themselves be present. The eligibility of new Durbaris is indeed enquired into, but the supervision has not always been thorough, it being usually left to the Police to pass or not a new comer. For want of time presenters could not always be informed of the fate of their nominees. Thus the unaccepted were left free to bow to the Viceroy though to be ignored in the published List. The new regulation is perhaps intended to absolutely exclude from Government House the ineligible. "Gentlemen who propose to present others must send *in writing* the names of such gentlemen to the Aid-de-Camp in Waiting, in order that they may be submitted to His Excellency the Viceroy for His Excellency's approval, when presentation cards will be forwarded." The restriction cannot but be salutary. We would also suggest an official publication of the Levée List after the ceremony.

The new rule is also made applicable to Drawing Rooms. The Viceroy and the Countess of Elgin will hold the next Drawing Room on the night of Thursday, the 19th December at the usual hour of 9-30. Cards must reach the Aid-de-Camp in waiting by Monday, the 9th of December.

Another regulation confirms what has grown to be a practice. "Clergymen being University graduates and other gentlemen entitled to wear robes or gowns on account of judicial or academical office or status should appear in such robes or gowns." The Judges of the Calcutta High Court used to appear in scarlet gowns. But they recently held that black would do as well. The Military Secretary's notification insists on no particular colour.

We do not understand the emphasis laid on written names for new presentations. Does it exclude printed cards? These are certainly more convenient than written names.

***

THE Honourable Colonel John Pennycuick, Royal Engineers, Chie Engineer and Secretary to the Government of Madras, Public Works Department, and an Additional Member of the Council of the Governor of Madras for making Laws and Regulations, has been created out of season, a Companion of the most Exalted Order of the Star of India. It may therefore be taken as a double distinction. The occasion for the honour is the completion of the Periyar irrigation works which were opened by Lord Wenlock last week.

***

THE old gradation of seniority in the Punjab Chief Court, where the senior Judge stood heir to the Chief, has been done away with. At its sitting, on the 17th instant, on the motion of the Extraordinary Member the Lieutenant-Governor of the Province, the Supreme Legislative Council empowered the Governor-General to select the directing head.

***

THE same Council declared ex-King Theebaw incapable of making contracts. His past indebtedness will be enquired into by a Commission. He must make over to his creditors what little he may still call his own, maintain himself by what the British Government will pay him and not run into debt.

***

DOCTORS Lawrie and Jordon of Hyderabad have found that Laveran's malaria crescent is nothing but altered white blood cells whose vitality is impaired or crippled by malarious fever. This, it is said, explains the action of the drug in reducing malarial spleen, also probably its action as a tonic. Is the discovery of any immediate practical use?

***

SINCE Monday, a New Zealander, a patented Professor from Australia and New Zealand, is electrifying Calcutta society. He professes to cure all ills the human flesh has imbibed since the creation of man, and all by the simple but mysterious application of electricity.

The range of his operations includes both man and woman, but no boys, little girls, babes at arms, and objectionable persons, whatever that may mean, for we find from an advertisement that these were not to be admitted to the lectures preparatory to the cures. There is no fixed charge for the treatment, but it depends upon the state of the patient or perhaps the length of his purse. The Professor "undertakes to cure, in any part of India, Rulers, Princes, Princesses, Governors, who may be afflicted and given up as incurable." The Government of India may well utilize his stay in this continent to put to rights all afflicted Local Administrations and Native States. The spell of the Enchanted Chamber at Chowringhee has, however, been broken by A Clergyman in the nearest printing establishment.

NOTES & LEADERETTES,
OUR OWN NEWS,
&
THE WEEK'S TELEGRAMS IN BRIEF, WITH OCCASIONAL COMMENTS.

THE *Times* publishes a telegram from Constantinople stating that the Sultan accepts the reforms for Armenia as proposed by the Powers, but, to save the appearance of yielding to pressure, declines to promulgate them at once. Reuter's correspondent telegraphs that the Ambassadors of the Powers and Said Pasha, the Foreign Minister, on the 15th, agreed to a modification of the proposed reforms including the appointment of a Christian Commissioner, who will be charged to execute the same. The Sultan has issued an irade approving of them It is feared that this acceptance does not settle the question from the Armenian point of view, while at the same time it increases the discontent existing among the Mussalman liberals.

It is reported from Lebanon in Asiatic Turkey that excitement prevails there, and that fatal conflicts have taken place in that region between the Druses and Maruah Druses. The latter complain of Turkish injustice.

CHOLERA has broken out at Damietta, with eleven cases and three deaths up to date The Egyptian Government has appointed a Cholera Committee similar to that which sat in 1883.

THE French captured Farafatra near Tamatave on the 10th instant. The Palace at Antananarivo was struck by a shell during the fighting on the 30th ultimo. A French garrison has since been installed at Antananarivo, and the Premier and several Malagasy officers are held as hostages for the disarmament of the country.

IN consequence of the British ultimatum to the Chinese Government, eighteen of the prisoners found guilty of the massacres at Kucheng have been executed, and the Commission has been empowered to try and execute the remainder

THE Puja is over, the country is preparing for the National Congress to be held at Poona.

THE celebration of the Dewali, in Calcutta, on Thursday night, was marked by the absence of the green only insects to destroy which the illumination seems to have been devised How to account for it?

SIX Beharis have been arrested at Monghyr with implements for manufacturing Queen's coins. The musical Bengali who for the same offence was convicted and sentenced to imprisonment by the Calcutta High Court, has been released from jail and is in society again.

A SUGGESTION has been made for introduction of female ticket collectors in changing stations on the E. I. Railway. The Oudh and Rohilkhand Railway and the N.-W. Railway, both State lines, have such an establishment. Why, it is asked, the E. I. should be without it? We are, however, not told how the system has worked in the other Railways.

THE Hon'ble Mr. Alan Cadell, C. S. I., I. C. S., Acting Lieutenant-Governor of the North-Western Provinces and Chief-Commissioner of Oudh, Mr. John David Rees, C. I. E., F. R. G. S., M. R. A. S., I. C. S., and Mr. George Peter Glendinning, Manager to the Bombay-Burma Trading Corporation, Limited, at Rangoon, and one of the Commissioners for that Port, have been Gazetted Additional Members of the Governor General's Council. The Hon'ble Sir G. H. P. Evans, K. C. I. E., Barrister-at-Law, Officiating Advocate General, Bengal, has also been renominated an Additional Member. His repeated nomination, in uninterrupted succession through several viceroyalties, has, for that repetition, ceased to cause surprise. We believe Mr Cadell does not join the Council till after he ceases to be Lieutenant-Governor.

ORDERS have been passed for mounting the Post Office dome with a clock at a cost of Rs. 10,000. The question that is now being discussed is what fund is to bear the charge—the Post Office or the Imperial? Mr. Sandell, Comptroller, Calcutta Post Office, objects to the Postal accounts being saddled with the sum, as the clock will not add to the income of the Post Office, but be an ornament to the Capital. He may as well claim a payment for allowing the use of the dome for the particular purpose. A cleverer head is sure to shift the burden to the Municipality, for the clock will be an attraction of the city.

THE Pilgrim Ships Bill was passed on the 3rd of October, and received the assent of the Governor General the next day. The Act comes into force on such day as the Governor General in Council may, by notification in the Gazette of India, appoint in this behalf The Convention of which it is the outcome, not having been signed, the Government of India is in no hurry now. It has taken power to do at any moment whatever may be required of it. The opposition of the Indian Mussulmans has had such attention paid to it as was open to Government, and Prince Sir Jehan Kadr, on behalf of the Mahomedan Literary Society of which he is President, and his community in general, accepted the Bill as finally settled. It had also the support of Moulvi Abdul Jubbar who had just returned from Haj. The initial objection to the new law still remains—that it is an enabling Act and as such transfers the power of the legislature to make laws or regulations to the Executive Government.

THOSE of his co-religionists who would, in self interest, make the Hajdeed, must have looked small when, during the holidays, he arrived at Calcutta with all those who had accompanied him, safe. They would even now send him away from Calcutta by offer of service in the distant mofussil. Now that the Moulvi is free from the trammels of office and does not mean to take to service again, we hope he will publish his experiences of the pilgrimage for the benefit of others

THE Bengal Government, from very honourable feeling, having decided not to further interfere with native gambling dens, because the European saloons can not be suppressed, the Calcutta Police have commenced a crusade against obscenity in print. During the holidays the name of a Mahomedan cure of all diseases, painted on walls of houses bordering on public thoroughfares, was scraped out There is now pending in the Northern Division Police Court a prosecution of an herbalist for luscious description of his medicines.

In this connection we may say that Verax's *Social Evil* has done much good in the Southern Division and is expected to do more

THE Hon'ble D. R Lyall is alternately spoken of as the next Superintendent of the Cuch Behar State and a Member of the Governor General's Council.

THE Bapat Commission report has been disposed of thus —

"The Commission appointed to inquire into the charges of corruption and extortion preferred against Mr. Wasudeo Sadashive Bapat, assistant to the Survey and Settlement Commissioner have submitted their report and proceedings to His Highness' Government.

2. The Commissioners have inquired into twelve charges of corruption and extortion. They have found eleven out of the twelve charges proved and one not proved. They have also inferred systematic corruption on the part of Mr. W. S. Bapat.

3. On receipt of the report and record, His Highness desired the Chief Justice of the Varishta Court and the Naib Dewan, Judicial Branch, to study the papers submitted by the Commission together with the papers which were withheld from the Commissioners as con-

fidential. On their submitting the result of their study of *all* the papers, His Highness in addition to his own independent study of the cases discussed the evidence with the two officers and also with the Minister and a Judge of the Varishta Court.

4 Accepting in the majority of cases the unanimous advice of these four officers and in the remaining cases, the advice of three out of the four; and taking these and other reasons into consideration His Highness has come to the conclusion that Mr. Wasudeo Sadashiv Bapat be freed of the charges.

5. Looking, however, to all the circumstances connected with this affair, His Highness does not think it desirable that Mr. Wasudev Bapat should be retained any longer in the service of the State. His Highness therefore orders that his services are dispensed with and that he be informed accordingly

[illegible] October, 1895 } (Sd) JAISINGRAO ANGRIA, Acting Dewan."

The result is not a surprise to the knowing. The enquiry was started when the Gaekwar and the Head of the Survey Department were absent from India. The accused was confident of what the end of the Commission's report would be. As a most loyal assistant, he was strong in the strength of his chief. The Gaekwar satisfies all parties by pronouncing the accused not guilty and sending him away It is yet to be seen whether he is punished at all. The final proceedings suggest the query—Why was the Commission sanctioned and expenses incurred if the Commissioners were to report on incomplete papers and imperfect evidence? Or is it that they went beyond their powers to be overruled? After all, there may be substantial justice in the order made.

THE following letter (dated Calcutta Custom House, August 27) over the signature FRANCIS H. SKRINE, F S. S, Officiating Collector of Sea Customs, appeared in the *Times* of September 17.

"The reimposition of the duties on cotton goods has evoked a storm of disapproval in the producing districts at home. The opposition is about to take a definite shape, and will be directed by an organization with Parliamentary influence and all the devices known to agitators at its command. The defence is proverbially weaker than the attack. In this controversy the disproportion is more marked than usual by reason of the vast difference in the resources of the contending parties To a solid phalanx inspired by self-interest, the most powerful motive known to human nature, and able to make itself heard both in Parliament and without, we can oppose only a disjointed body with few things in common, divided in counsels, and ignorant of the machinery of political warfare. Here public opinion and representative institutions exist only in embryo; and, in spite of all that has been said of late as to the increased speed and punctuality of communications with India, it is still a very distant country, and the echo of events there falls faintly on the English ear. Hence statesmen with elastic conscience and an eye to the main chance find it easy enough to treat us as a *quantité négligeable*.

Again and again have our interests been sacrificed to the exigencies of party warfare or the home exchequer. Those who are on the side of truth and justice have found a powerful ally in the *Times*. It is not the first occasion on which you, sir, have entered the arena as a champion of the weak against the strong, and have carried the day in spite of tremendous odds But warfare demands munitions, and facts must be supplied enabling the public to form a correct judgment on the issues before it.

Manchester, to give the word an extended sense, alleges that the cotton duties infringe a principle of free trade by operating as a protection to Indian producers. Free trade resembles liberty as apostrophized by Mme. Roland, for it has been made an excuse for many of those blunders which are worse than crimes In this case, however, the fetish does not come into play at all Cobden himself did not disapprove of the taxation of manufactured goods, provided that its object were purely fiscal. That India stands in urgent need of money no one who has considered Sir James Westland's last budget can doubt; and it will be not very difficult to prove that the duties on cotton wares levied at Indian ports are not protective.

Had the reverse been the case, a permanent shrinkage in the volume of exports from Manchester must have resulted from their operation. Such is the inevitable consequence of a really protective tariff. Now, on examining the recent statistics of exports of cotton goods from Manchester, what do we find? A temporary check following on the imposition of the duties succeeded by a recovery to something more than the normal volume The first was inevitable. It is never possible to discount the immediate effect on markets of any fiscal change, and importers invariably contract their operations in such cases until they are in a position to gauge their position and the probable future of the trade in which they are embarked.

The following statement compares the exports of plain and coloured cottons from Manchester to Calcutta during each of the years 1893 94 95. The last six ciphers, as well as fractions, have been omitted. The unit is, of course, the standard yard.—

	1893.		1894.		1895.	
Month	Plain	Coloured	Plain	Coloured	Plain	Coloured.
Jan.	59	6	93	11	66	4
Feb.	47	6	100	15	49	2
March	64	6	95	13	62	3
April	44	4	81	14	54	2
May	09	8	56	9	71	7
June	77	6	72	10	73	8
July	85	12	79	12	95	9
Average	63	7	82	12	67	5

So much for Calcutta, the port in which I am personally interested. Let us now glance at the exports from Manchester to the four principal ports of the empire. My figures are taken from the monthly circular of Messrs. Stables, Straker, and Co., who are generally regarded by the trade as trustworthy guides. They appear to include exports down to the end of the first week in August; hence they do not exactly tally with those recorded by the statistical branch of my office. As in my previous statement, millions are omitted and yards understood

Port.	Average of five years.		Jan. 1 to Aug. 7. 1895.	
	Plain	Coloured	Plain	Coloured
Calcutta	492	55	459	37
Bombay	234	83	218	58
Madras	45	16	64	19
Rangoon	18	9	25	9
Total	789	163	766	123

Thus the temporary depression has been filled up, and Manchester has no reason to fear the effect of the cotton duties. The fact that a revival of trade has set in is admitted in the last report received here of that very useful and energetic body the Manchester Chamber of Commerce. In the face of these stubborn facts who shall say that our export duties have the faintest flavour of protection?"

Mr. Skrine is a man of versatile talents, wonderful energy and strong sense of duty. He has laid the Bengali community under a deep debt of gratitude by his recent book. He is no less mindful of the interests of the Indian continent. In that letter to the *Times* he exposes the fallacy of the English agitation against the Indian cotton duties. It has, as it was bound to do, made much stir in Manchester. Even against the practice of the London press, other journals reproduced it, and it has been widely discussed. They admit that Mr. Skrine's figures are accurate, but urge that those for 1893 with which he compares those of 1895 were exceptionally low from exceptional causes—strikes at Oldham, &c. The main point of the letter, however, remains unchallenged—namely, that the exports of cotton goods from Manchester, after a check in the beginning of the year, rallied to more than normal, taken over a series of years, in June and July.

If his letter can stem the tide of opposition to the cotton duties, Mr. Skrine will have done no small service to the Government of India. It is difficult to believe that a man with such a strong sense of duty and justice would be wanting in the ordinary discharge of official work. Yet, for no other offence than of sparing an old officer an indignity in his old age, Mr. Skrine is found fault with in the administration of the Department in his charge, by men who resent his activity in an arena where they are accustomed to lord it, who mistake his celerity for imperiousness, who cannot forgive him his impatience of stupidity, and denounce him because he is the victim of displeasure of a questionable high quarter.

PANDIT Shamji Krishna Varma who only the other day succeeded the late Haridas Viharidas Desai as Dewan of the Junagadh State has gone back to Oodeypore as member of the *Mahendraj Sabha* or State Council. The new Dewan is Sardar Behechardas Viharidas Desai. We do not know him, but as younger brother of our much esteemed friend the late Dewan Haridas, we give him welcome.

REIS & RAYYET.

Saturday, October 19, 1895.

SAKTI WORSHIP AND MISSIONARY PAMPHLETEERS.

THE present being the season of worship of the great Sakti goddesses, it may not be inappropriate to give an account of the origin and nature of the Sákta cult, and to draw attention to the current erroneous notions on the subject. According to the popular view, Sakti worship is the name of the cult which attaches greater importance to the adoration of the consorts of Siva than to that of any other deity. The word Sakti literally means "energy" or "power," and, taking into consideration what is recorded in Tantric scriptures, it seems to be used in the sense in which the word "power" is used in English when a person is spoken of as a political or spiritual power. Some of the Babu exponents of modern

Hinduism have been led to believe and preach that the Sakti of the Tantrics denotes the same thing as the terms 'energy" and "force" of modern science. Such misuse of scientific terms by men of religion has been common enough in India from remote antiquity Its prevalence among the Hindu graduates of the Calcutta University is somewhat of a marvel.

In Bengal, Sakti worship is usually identified with that of the goddess Kali, who has not only many permanent shrines in this part of the country, but is worshipped temporarily also on certain red letter days of the Hindu calendar, especially on the night of the new moon of October. The form given her must be well-known to every one who has ever been in Bengal, but its meaning is not known to any except the learned in the Shastras. Dr. Murdoch, in his pamphlet entitled "Swami Vivekananda on Hinduism," describes the goddess thus :

"She is represented as a black woman, with four arms. In one hand she has a weapon, in another the head of the giant she has slain ; with the two others she is encouraging her worshippers. For earrings she has two dead bodies ; she wears a necklace of skulls ; her only clothing is a girdle made of dead men's hands. After her victory over the giant, she danced so furiously that the earth trembled beneath her weight. At the request of the gods, Siva asked her to stop ; but, as owing to the excitement, she did not notice him, he lay down among the slain. She continued dancing till she caught sight of her husband under her feet ; upon which, in Hindu fashion, she thrust out her tongue to express surprise and regret."

This is the popular explanation. The true meaning is very different We certainly do not approve of the spirit in which Dr. Murdoch has commented on the doctrines and practices of the Hindu religion in this and other passages. If the image of Kali, for instance, represented nothing more than what he has described it, the tone of contempt pervading his remarks could well be regarded quite unjustifiable. As a matter of fact, the image has a far worse significance. Though it may sometimes be necessary to lay bare its imperfections, yet we must not be taken to admit that there is any religion which stands on a higher platform than our ancient faith. In our view, almost all the religious systems which men have been taught to follow, have the same character, the difference being only in the degree of development.

In its essential nature, Sakti-worship is the counterpart of Siva-worship. The latter is, probably, a more ancient cult than the former. This chronology is borne out not only by the historical data obtainable about them but also by *a priori* considerations. The researches of antiquarians have established that Saiva worship existed in India before the commencement of the Christian era. But the history of Sakti adoration cannot be carried back to a very early period. If *Ananda Lahari* be the work of Sankaracharya, then Sakti-worship may have existed in some esoteric form during the early centuries of Christ. But its more overt forms, such as Doorga, Kali and Jagatdhatri, are more or less of recent growth. The Doorga Puja, which is the most ancient of the three, had, in all probability, its origin in the town of Nadia, when it was the metropolis of Bengal. The name of the deity, the name of the last day of the Puja, and the ritual prescribed for its celebration strongly support the inference that she was worshipped by the Hindu kings and their military officers as the presiding goddess of forts. In the rainy season, all military operations necessarily came to a standstill, and the soldiers and their commanders were led by their priests to celebrate the worship, on a grand scale, of the goddess of forts. If this view be correct, then the worship must have commenced at a time when the country was ruled by Hindu kings. If, again, it had its origin in the town of Nadia, then it cannot be of an earlier date than the ninth century of the Christian era, as that was the earliest period when the great seat of Sanskrit learning in Bengal was also its metropolis.

The suggestion that Nadia was the birthplace of the greatest Hindu festival of Bengal, is supported by various facts and circumstances. To begin with : the most important materials for the Puja are obtainable more readily in Nadia and its neighbourhood than in any other part of India. Then, again, the Puja is celebrated with the greatest *eclat* in and around Nadia, and is hardly known even by name in the frontier districts of the province. The view stated above is, to some extent, established by the tradition, preserved in a doggerel, according to which the Rajas of Dinajpore were the first in wealth, and while the House of Nator owed its pre-eminence to its public works, and that of Burdwan to gifts of rent-free lands, the Nadia Rajas surpassed them all in the magnificence of their Doorga Puja. Though these observations apply to the state of things existing in the last century, yet it does not seem unreasonable to regard them as warranting the supposition that, in celebrating the Doorga Puja with unusual pomp, the ancestors of the present Raja of Nadia followed only the tradition which they inherited from their predecessors. Lastly, the fact that Raghunandan of Nadia was the first of the human authors, who have written about the ritual of the Doorga Puja, goes also a great way to establish that the inspired writers on the subject, who originated the worship, were also of the same place. The Puranic myth about the worship of Doorga is that Rama, finding it extremely difficult to conquer Ravana, the demon King of Lanka, invoked Doorga unseasonably, that is in autumn, although the usual time for worshipping that deity is the spring. To this day, in Bengal and several other parts of India, Doorga is worshipped in a few families in the spring season. But the practice is more general of worshipping her in autumn. It is said that after the conclusion of the worship, that is on the fourth day, Rama slew the great enemy of gods and men. Hence that day is called the Vijaya or the day of triumph The Vijaya is a highly auspicious day with the Hindus Great undertakings are generally commenced that day. Above all, one beautiful feature of the Vijaya is the burial of all animosities of the year ween man and man in a loving and affectionate race. Relatives meeting relatives, friends meeting nds, acquaintances meeting acquaintances, for the first time after that day, will bow, the junior to the senior, and embrace each other in a spirit of peace and love. The Vijaya *pronam* or salutation-ceremonence, and the Vijaya *ásherbád* or blessing, is the most attractive feature of the Doorga Pooja. That the autumnal worship of Doorga should become so general and should have gradually superseded the spring worship, seems to point to the fact that some bold innovator having set the practice as an example to his countrymen. The influence which the House of Nadia has exercised in religious matters in Bengal to a date within the memory of living men, grace-

As to Kali worship in the form which prevails in Bengal, a tradition ascribes it to Krishnanand Agam Bagish of Nadia, who lived in the fifteenth century of the Christian era. The Jagadhatri is well known to have been introduced by the Nadia Rajas of the last century.

Quite irrespective of historical data, it may be readily conceded that the adoration of the female principle is a more recent invention than Saiva worship. To the mendicants and priests who introduced both, nothing could be more agreeable and politic than to maintain an attitude of passiveness and indifference, and to lead their fair votaries to seek for them. But experience evidently showed them that, in spite of the constant utterance of the formula, Sivoham, by which they claimed to be the god Siva incarnate, it was not possible to make their followers worship them as such, or adore anything beyond only a stone or clay emblem. The Sivite cult imposes a policy of masterly inactivity. Sakti-worship allows more aggressive proceedings and has, therefore, in many parts of India, superseded Saivism more or less. Sakti-worship is not of a more refined character than Saivism, and so both are being thrown into the shade by the cleverer device of Radha-worship, which proves far more effective by appealing to the imitative spirit of its votaries.

The adoration of Sakti, in its primary form, being, from its very nature, too much for the unsophisticated, is very rare in practice, though not quite unknown. The most prevailing forms are the adoration of the *yantra*, and of the clay or stone image of a woman in dishabille mounted on an image of Siva equally draped. The first is a triangular plate of copper or brass forming part of every Sákta Brahman's penates. In absence of the plate, the Sákta worshipper would offer his daily adoration to a triangle painted on a salver. The worship of the plate and the painted triangle is, of course, esoteric. By the great mass of the uninitiated, Sakti is worshipped in the form of a clay or stone image of Kali mounted on Siva, both being "sky-clad" to use the usual Sanskrit mode of expression. According to the scriptures of the sect, the best form of adoration is to make the offerings to a breathing statue. The next approved object of Tantric worship is the emblematic geometrical figure. The worship of inanimate images and paintings is the least meritorious of all.

In the image of Kali usually seen in Bengal, the goddess is placed in a standing posture on the breast of her lord. That, however, is not the proper attitude of the deity to which the Sákta is required to bow down. It is the nearest approach to the Shastric pose which the devout, always better than his religion, can exhibit before the public. Those acquainted with the *Dhyana* or the descriptive hymn that the worshipper utters either mentally or aloud, know what the characteristics of the image are as laid down in the scriptures. It is said that Agam Bagish himself invented the image that we see.

THE ORIGIN OF THE *QUARTERLY REVIEW*

A VERY good hand-book of the history of English literature is Mr. Thomas B. Shaw's, edited with notes and illustrations by Dr. William Smith, and published by John Murray The book has passed through many editions. That of 1889 was the seventeenth. A mass of valuable information has been carefully compressed within a brief space. The volume is deservedly popular. The criticisms are for the most part sound and agree with the accepted verdicts of literary men of reputation. Here and there the author speaks in the first person singular. On such occasions he always makes some instructive observation that visibly adds to our stock of knowledge. For even grown up men it is impossible to read the remarks on the great productions of English genius in different departments of literature without feeling the desire of renewing their acquaintance. In the case of young students, those observations are sure to whet their curiosity and lead them to take up the original works for study and examination. The Calcutta University has acted wisely by including this excellent volume in the curriculum of the higher examinations.

Carefully edited though the work has been by Dr. Smith, who, perhaps, has worked more earnestly than others for the students of schools and colleges in both England and the colonies, some assertions have found a place in it that do not exactly accord with facts. One such is to be met with in p. 527. Referring to the establishment of the *Quarterly Review*, it is said, "The influence which the *Edinburgh Review* soon acquired was exercised in favour of political principles opposed to those of the existing administration; and its authority in matters of literature and taste became almost paramount. Under those circumstances the late Mr. Murray, after consulting Mr. Canning and other distinguished politicians and men of letters, determined in 1809 to start a new review to counteract the danger of those liberal opinions which seemed to be menacing the very integrity of the constitution This new periodical, which was called *The Quarterly Review*, was warmly welcomed by the friends of the Government, and immediately obtained a literary reputation at least equal to that of the *Edinburgh*." As a matter of fact, it was not in 1809 but in 1807 that John Murray first thought of bringing out a periodical in the Tory interest. On the 25th of September 1807, Murray addressed a letter to Canning. That epistle was first published in the Autobiography of Barrow who was one of the most active contributors to the *Quarterly* during the first few years of its life. Here is the document in full.

"Sir,—I venture to address you upon a subject that is, perhaps, not undeserving of one moment of your attention.

"There is a work entitled the *Edinburgh Review* written with such unquestionable talent that it has already attained an extent of circulation not equalled by any similar publication. The principles of this work are, however, so radically bad, that I have been led to consider the effect which such sentiments, so generally diffused, are likely to produce, and to think that some means equally popular ought to be adopted to counteract their dangerous tendency. But the publication in question is conducted with so much ability, and is sanctioned and circulated with such high and decisive authority by the party of whose opinions it is the organ, that there is little hope of producing against it any effectual opposition, unless it arise from you, Sir, and from your friends. Should you, Sir, think the idea worthy of encouragement, I should, with equal pride and willingness, engage my arduous exertion to promote its success, but as my object is nothing short of producing a work of the greatest talent and importance, I shall entertain it no longer, if it be not so fortunate as to obtain the high patronage which I have thus, Sir, taken the liberty to solicit.

"Permit me to add, Sir, that the person who thus addresses you is no adventurer, but a man of some property, including a business that has been established for nearly half a century. I, therefore, trust that my application will be attributed to its proper motives, and that your goodness will at least pardon its intrusion.

"I have the honour to be, Sir, &c., &c.,

"JOHN MURRAY."

Canning, it is said, read the letter, and laid it aside, without honouring it with a reply. Two months before the date of Murray's letter, Scott and Southey had been corresponding about the *Edinburgh Review*, Southey saying that he felt himself unable to keep up his connection with a periodical of such political views, and Scott heartily agreeing in condemning the general tone of the *Review* in both politics and literature. Early in 1808, a very severe article came out in the *Edinburgh Review* on *Marmion* which had been recently published. Constable was owner of three-fourths of the copyright of the new poem, yet that fact had no weight with Jeffrey in reviewing it freely and severely. Indeed, the perfect freedom with which every subject was handled and the utter independence of the trade which the *Edinburgh* displayed on all occasions, were the causes of its remarkable and immediate success. As regards Jeffrey himself, his sensibilities not having been at all delicate, he did not think that

he had done anything at which Scott could be offended. He even sent the article to Scott with a note stating that he would come to dinner on the day he named. Scott, though wounded, concealed it. Mrs. Scott, however, was very cold in her manner, and as Jeffrey was taking leave, she broke forth, unable to restrain her pique, in her broken English,—"Well, guid nicht, Mr. Jeffrey; dey tell me you have abused Scott in the *Review*; and I hope Mr. Constable has paid you well for writing it." Murray, on reading the article felt that Scott could not continue his connection any longer with a periodical that treated him so harshly and, as he thought, so unfairly. An active correspondence was the result between Murray, Scott, and Southey. The arrangements were made silently but earnestly. Gifford, the biting satirist of the *Baviad and Mæviad* and brilliant editor of the *Anti Jacobin*, was selected for editing the *Quarterly Review* as the new magazine was called. It was believed that he would outrival Jeffrey. It was on the 1st of February, 1809, that the first number came out. To the second number Canning contributed. As the *Edinburgh* had been taken as the model, especially in the liberal payment of *all* contributors, Canning had to accept the payment of ten guineas per sheet for his article. It should be known, however, that in the preliminary arrangements that led to the establishment of the *Quarterly*, Canning had played a very inferior part. In fact, long after the receipt of Mr. Murray's letter, all that he did was to write to a personal friend of his, and that at a time when the rebellion against the *Edinburgh* and Jeffrey had already drawn to a head. The conspirators had formed their plan, without the slightest reference to Canning.

The following extract regarding the success of the first number of the *Quarterly* may not be uninteresting. "According to tradition there were high jinks at Murray's shop in Fleet Street when the first copies arrived from the binders; a triumphal column of the books 'was raised aloft in solemn joy in the counting-house, the best wine in the cellar was uncorked, and glasses in hand John Murray and assistants danced jubilant round the pile. The pile, however, did not long remain, as so many famous columns have done to mock the hope of their builders, but the whole issue was sold almost immediately, and a second edition was called for."

It should be remembered that it was Jeffrey who first raised the connection of literary men with periodicals and newspapers to one of dignity and emolument by insisting on a liberal payment to every contributor. No contribution was admitted that was not paid for. Constable, who for his liberality to authors, had earned the title of "Czar of Muscovy," never interfered with Jeffrey in the conduct of the *Edinburgh* and always accepted his recommendation about the honorariums to be paid to contributors. It was by following this rule of liberal payment that the *Quarterly* succeeded in rivalling the blue and yellow. The following extract gives the internal history of the *Quarterly*: "Barrow was introduced (to Gifford) and contributed, in all, no less than one hundred and ninety-five articles 'on every subject, from China to Life Assurance' After Barrow and Croker, Southey was, perhaps, the most prolific; to the first hundred and twenty-six numbers he contributed ninety-four articles—many of them of great permanent value—and to him Murray uniformly exhibited a generosity almost without parallel. For an article on the 'Lives of Nelson,' he received twenty guineas a sheet, double what Southey himself acknowledged to be ample, and he was offered £100 to enlarge the article into a volume, and having exceeded the estimated quantity of print, Murray paid him double the amount stipulated, adding another 200 guineas when the book was reissued for the 'Family Library.' For the review of the 'Life of Wellington,' Southey got £100, and he thought the sum so large that he himself calls it 'a ridiculous price' he continued to receive, and he was in the habit of saying that he was as much overpaid for his articles by Murray as he was underpaid for the rest of his works for other publishers. 'Madoc,' of which he had great hopes, brought him £3 19s.-1d. for the first twelvemonth, and the three volumes of his 'History of the Brazils,' scarcely paid their expenses of publication."

The *Quarterly* gave Murray at once a pre-eminence in the London trade, by bringing him into contact with the chief Conservative statesmen, and with the principal literary men in England Like Constable, his generosity was rewarded by the title of "Emperor of the West." He soon removed from Fleet to Albemarle Street. His drawing-room, at four o'clock, became the favourite resort of all the talent in literature and in art that London then possessed. There it was his custom to assemble together such men as Byron, Scott, Moore, Campbell, Southey, Gifford, Hallam, Lockhart, Washington Irving, and Mrs. Somerville. He invited such artists as Lawrence, Wilkie, Phillips, Newton, and Pickersgill, to meet those literary lions and to paint them that they might hang on his walls. The dinners of Murray were highly spoken of. They rivalled those of kings. Byron makes Murray say, in his mock epistle to Dr. Polidori—

> The room's so full of wits and bards,
> Crabbes, Campbells, Crokers, Freres, and Wards,
> And others, neither bards nor wits,
> My humble tenement admits
> All persons in the dress of gent,
> From Mr. Hammond to Dog Dent.
> A party dines with me to-day,
> All clever men who make their way;
> Crabbe, Malcolm, Hamilton, and Chantrey,
> Are all partakers of my pantry.
> * * *
> My room's full—we've Gifford here,
> Reading M S with Hookham Frere;
> Pronouncing on the nouns and particles
> Of some of our forthcoming articles

Murray had business talents of a high order. In this he excelled his great rival of the North, for Constable never liked to look at a balance sheet. Accordingly, when the great crash of 1826 came, which swept away both Constable and Scott, John Murray was comparatively unaffected. The only unsuccessful venture in which Murray had engaged was the *Representative* Seeing that the *Quarterly* had succeeded as a Tory organ, it was resolved to start a high class Tory daily. Though well informed and well-written, it gave up the struggle after a brief existence of six months. The *Times* proved the victor. When any young speculator, after this, proposed to Murray to start a daily paper, he used to point to a ledger on his book-shelves and say grimly, "Twenty thousand pounds lie buried there."

Although the *Quarterly* succeeded in realising the expectations of its founders, yet even in its palmiest days it was but a party organ. Even its literary criticisms were coloured by party considerations. It was professedly an antidote to the poison of the *Edinburgh*. That poison, however, without being neutralised by the antidote, proved to be of immense service in curing the nation of many grave maladies. We shall close our reference to the two great periodicals by an extract from Sydney Smith. The picture, though coming from the pen of one of the original projectors of the *Edinburgh*, is not at all overdrawn. Writing in 1839, he said:—

"To appreciate the value of the *Edinburgh Review*, the state of England at the period when that journal began should be had in remembrance. The Catholics were not emancipated—the Corporation and Test Acts were unrepealed—the Game Laws were horribly oppressive—Steel Traps and Spring Guns were set all over the country—Prisoners tried for their Lives could have no Counsel—Lord Eldon and the Court of Chancery pressed heavily on mankind—Libel was punished by the most cruel and vindicative imprisonments—the principles of Political Economy were little understood—the laws of Debt and Copyright were upon the worst possible footing—the enormous wickedness of the Slave Trade was tolerated—a thousand evils were in existence, which the talents of good and able men have since lessened or removed; and these effects have been not a little assisted by the honest boldness of the *Edinburgh Review*."

"AN INDIAN JOURNALIST*."

(From the *Bombay Gazette*, September 28, 1895.)

It would not have been necessary to pen the series of articles which appeared in our columns some time back on the Native Press, if instead of being conducted, as is too often the case, by ill-qualified men, disappointed at their inability to obtain Government employment, it was carried on by men like the late editor of *Reis and Rayyet*, Dr. Sambhu C. Mookerjee. The life, letters and correspondence of this cultured and broad-minded man have now been published under the title of "An Indian Journalist," by

* *An Indian Journalist*: Being the Life, Letters and Correspondence of Dr. Sambhu C. Mookerjee, late Editor of *Reis and Rayyet*, Calcutta. By F. H. Skrine, I. C. S. Calcutta: Thacker, Spink & Co. 1895.

Mr. F. H Skrine, of the Indian Civil Service (Calcutta: Thacker, Spink and Co). Dr. Mookerjee was well worthy of the distinction accorded, so far as we know, to no other Native journalist in India, of having an English Civilian for his biographer, but the honour is well in keeping with the life of its subject, who for many years enjoyed the personal friendship of distinguished civilians, of Provincial Governors, and of successive Viceroys. Mr. Skrine has performed his self-imposed task in no patronising manner, but in the spirit of one who while delighting to do honour to a great and good man does not hide his foibles. The subject of the biography was not free from faults, and Mr. Skrine does not attempt to make him appear otherwise. We are glad to note that in dedicating the book to Sir William Hunter, the author raises his voice against the "persistent vituperation" heaped upon the race from which Dr. Mookerjee sprang. Some years ago Sir F Monat, one Inspector-General of Jails, told the London Statistical Society that he considered that in the matter of truth and honesty the Bengalis were neither better nor worse than many nations boasting of a higher civilization or a purer faith; and that they "in no degree merited the wholesale condemnation with which they were generally visited by those who wrote and talked much but really knew very little of them." Mr. Skrine is evidently of the same opinion and puts these detractors of the Bengalis into two classes, those who know nothing of them and have been dazzled by "the brilliant sophistries of Macaulay"; and those who judge the race by the "cringing sycophants who dance attendance in high officials' ante-rooms or belong to families who during a century of intercourse with us in the capital have lost some of their native virtues without acquiring ours." The more closely Englishmen are brought into acquaintance with the Bengali language and character the less likely they are to fall into these errors. But on this side of India people form their estimate of the inhabitants of the Lower Provinces not so much from Macaulay's brilliant sophistries as from what they have read respecting the vernacular prints of Bengal, which, however, reports at the views of writers bent on doing their little best to throw mud on the British administration rather than the true public opinion of Bengal. The basis of the estimate is therefore a wrong one, and it should not be forgotten that there are papers and papers and that as much difference exists between some of the rabid Calcutta prints, and the paper which Dr. Mookerjee founded as between darkness and light. *Reis and Rayyet* has always been remarkable for the mingled ability, candour and charitableness of its criticisms, and the periodical has enjoyed a degree of influence approached by no other native weekly. The paper was so well managed by its founder as to attract general notice and bring him into confidential relations with the makers of history. In the words of his biographer, "it sobered his judgment, and deepened his sense of responsibility"—two qualifications which the native journalists whom Dr. Mookerjee has left behind, should cultivate as being essential to those who, exercising a formative influence over their fellows, desire to use their influence aright.

There was in the mind of Dr. Mookerjee a constant struggle between the liberal impulses born of his learning and his wide knowledge of literature on the one hand, and his inherited prejudices on the other. It is characteristic of the largeness of his heart that in this struggle it was the restrictions which hampered his usefulness to his fellows that succumbed, rather than those which went against his own personal enjoyments. True to his Brahmin descent he abstained for the greater part of his life from animal food and even from fish, and it was only in deference to the persistent entreaties of his friends that in the closing years of his career he adopted the more stimulating diet which his medical advisers considered necessary. His belief in the brotherhood of man and his desire to lighten the burdens of others showed themselves in innumerable directions. In his morning walks he would often stop and converse with the Municipal sweepers, and would question them respecting their caste and social customs. In the same way he would when relieving "loafers" enter into earnest conversation with them. It is related that on one occasion he kept a guest waiting for supper for some time, while talking to a palki-bearer. He deemed the comfort of his servants of greater importance than his own; and when they had retired to rest he would never allow them to be disturbed on any pretext. He would spend his time, brains and money in the interests of his friends without stint, and indeed found it impossible not to make a liberal response to the calls of friendship or of distress. From this cause he was prevented from making anything like the provision for his family which as Mr. Skrine remarks "is every day effected by men without a tithe of his mental gifts, but also without a tithe of his milk of human kindness." Rank was repeatedly pressed upon him, but his sturdy independence led him to refuse it; and his high-minded contempt of mere sordid gain caused him to neglect his many opportunities for acquiring wealth. He was no mere sycophant, and his friendship with men filling the exalted places of the land was due to no self seeking endeavours to thrust himself upon them but to their own desire to become acquainted with a Native of great originality and personal charm. He was a warm supporter both with voice and pen of movements, having for their object the prevention of cruelty to dumb beasts. But this interest for the brute creation did not lead him to encourage in the slightest degree the fantastic theories of the Cow Protection societies. Neither did he care one jot for the Congress movement, for he felt the national programme to be premature and unsuited to Indian conditions and knew full well that the advancement of his fellow-countrymen laid in other directions. He firmly believed in the English rule as the best and only possible one, and as inspired by a deep sense of justice. He was naturally of warm and impulsive temperament, and when he heard a tale of wrong, he would, as Mr. Skrine remarks, promptly pour forth "unmeasured diatribes on men and measures which calm reflection showed him to be in no way deserving of censure."

The greater part of this most interesting biography of one whom India could ill-afford to lose, is occupied with extracts from the correspondence which Dr. Mookerjee had with all sorts and conditions of men. These letters have been placed at Mr. Skrine's disposal by the friends of the deceased journalist, and he has made a most judicious selection of them. He has exercised a wise restraint in the case of the letters of the Marquis of Dufferin, Sir Auckland Colvin, and Sir Charles Elliott for, to use his own words, the time has not yet come when opinions expressed by these administrators in unguarded intercourse should be given to the world. A few letters from living administrators which there is no reason to hold back are, however, given including one Lord Dufferin wrote to Dr. Mookerjee, from the Embassy at Rome in 1890, in which he says: "that Lord Lansdowne should like and appreciate you was certain, and I am sure that your admiration for him will increase as you become better acquainted with him." Lord Lansdowne was the last Viceroy whose friendship the Calcutta journalist was destined to enjoy, for Lord Elgin had only assumed office a few days when Dr. Mookerjee succumbed to the asthmatic troubles to which he had long been a victim, and in consequence of which he had years before joined the great army of opium-takers. Sir John Ardagh wrote a letter of condolence on behalf of the new Viceroy, which stated that his Excellency had heard with much regret of the death of one whose reputation as an able and independent writer was well known to him and whose acquaintance he was looking forward to making. Amongst the many interesting reminiscences with which the volume abounds, may be mentioned an incident which illustrates the tendency shown by Sir Richard Temple, then Lieutenant Governor of Bengal, throughout his whole career in India to allow no matter of public interest to escape his notice, and if need be his interposition. Dr. Mookerjee, who was a man of wide cosmopolitan sympathies, joined with the late Nawab Abdool Luteef in organizing a public meeting for the purpose of congratulating the Turks on their successes at Plevna, in the early stages of the Russo-Turkish war. Regarding the demonstration as being likely to offend Muscovite susceptibilities, Sir Richard Temple interdicted it. The aggrieved Mahomedans sought the aid of Dr. Mookerjee and he advised an appeal in higher quarters. Accordingly an appeal was made with success; the meeting was held; and we suppose no one was a penny the worse for it. Dr. Mookerjee may be placed with the still lamented Justice Pelang in the category of those natives of this country who are connecting links between rulers and ruled, and who by their labours, as well as by their personal example and influence, do immense service in welding together the diverse communities of the land in the bonds of fraternal brotherhood and loyalty.

(From the *Pioneer*, October 5, 1895.)

For much of the biographical matter that issues so freely from the press an apology is needed. Had no biography of Dr. Mookerjee, the Editor of *Reis and Rayyet*, appeared, an explanation would have been looked for. A man of his remarkable personality, who was easily first among native Indian journalists, and in many respects occupied a higher plane than they did, and looked at public affairs from a different point of view from theirs, could not be suffered to sink into oblivion without some attempt to perpetuate his memory by the usual expedient of a "life." The difficulties common to all biographers have in this case been increased by

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special circumstances, not the least of which is that the author belongs to a different race from the subject. It is true that among Englishmen there were many admirers of the learned Doctor, and that he on his side understood the English character as few foreigners understand it. But in spite of this and his remarkable assimilation of English modes of thought and expression, Dr. Mookerjee remained to the last a Brahman of the Brahmans---a conservation of the best of his inheritance that wins nothing but respect and approval. In consequence of this, his ideal biographer would have been one of his own disciples, with the same inherited sympathies and trained like him in Western learning. If Bengal had produced such another man as Dr. Mookerjee, it was he who should have written his life. On another ground one feels, after reading the volume, not dissatisfied but unsatisfied. Written so soon after the events with which it deals, the life and letters necessarily indicate the suppression of matter that would probably have been more interesting than any that has been published. Mr. Skrine has exercised a judicious reserve, the necessity for which he may regret as much as his readers, and the result is very obvious incompleteness. Unfortunately, the desire to know more is likely to remain ungratified, for interest in the circumstances will have passed away before publication becomes no longer indiscreet. Of all men the editor of a newspaper is and should be least before the public in his own person, and long after his death the seal of the editorial confessional must remain unbroken.

Of the execution of the task by Mr. Skrine it is impossible not to speak favourably in view of the difficulties he had to face. He has made the most of the materials placed at his disposal, and we cannot grumble at the restraint he has exercised. The perfect biographer is a man of the stamp of Boswell, who sinks his own personality, who has no views himself and no desire to display his learning and the extent of his reading. Mr. Skrine's is a personality not easily suppressed, nor, except for artistic reasons, would anyone wish it. It is impossible in reading the *Life and Letters* not to think of the writer as well as of the subject, to look in on him in his study and watch his methods of composition. We imagine, for instance, a carefully indexed commonplace book, which supplies on every other page quotations from "a Latin poet," "the greatest of French novelists, Honoré de Balzac," "the anonymous editor of the letters of Bussy-Rabutin (Amsterdam 1738)," "an Irish member of Parliament of the last century" (who, an irrelevant note informs us, was "Richard Lovell Edgeworth of Edgeworths-town, father of the well-known novelist"). Attention is, in fact, distracted from the view by the officiousness of the guide. But if this is a flaw in the biographer's art, it furnishes incidentally some information on diverse subjects, some really interesting quotations, and makes us familiar with the writer's mental furniture and opinions. His reflections on the journalistic career, for instance, will awake a comfortable feeling of self-pity in the breast of every obscure newspaper-man :---

"The man of genius who, for his sins, embraces the calling of journalist is debarred from gratifying the 'last infirmity of noble minds.' His works are written on sand. They deal with ephemeral topics; and they are clean forgotten before the broadsheets which give them to the world are dry. The English custom of anonymity is to blame for this absence of a powerful educer of all that is best in a man: and there are many who think that this drawback outweighs its admitted advantages. A youth who adopts this ungrateful profession must accept the inevitable, and will be fortunate if, by the time he is a grey-headed drudge, his fame is known to the brethren of the quill and midnight oil. The great actor has a more enviable lot. His triumphs are equally evanescent: but then he is sustained by the magnetism of applause, spurred to excel himself by the sympathy of his audience: while the traditions of his feats long survive him. Mookerjee was essentially a journalist; and the fact places his biographer at some disadvantage. For the gentle reader---like Napoleon when the name of a candidate for employ was submitted to him---asks 'What has he done?'"

Mr. Skrine's views on early marriage are his own, and are at least evidence of independent judgment. Dr. Mookerjee, it should be remarked, in explanation, was born in 1839 and was thus eighteen years of age at the time of his marriage. The event suggests the following paragraph :---

"At a time when old England was ringing with stories of military and naval disasters Dr. Johnson remarked that public woes deterred no man from eating his dinner as usual. People marry, and are given in marriage while their country's destinies are trembling in the balance; and Dr. Mookerjee gave hostages to fortune during the throes of the last great struggle for Empire, in 1857. His wife was a scion of the Bural family of Jorasanko. This event was far from having the sinister influence on his mental development which is assigned to early marriages by self-styled friends of India. They are stigmatised as the root of the decay which is consuming the country's manhood. That the children of the upper middle classes in many parts of Bengal are mere human weeds is but too evident: but the cause of deterioration must be sought for in adverse physical conditions rather than in a custom which is hallowed by the acquiescence of a hundred generations. Doctrinaire-reformers forget that human nature is more powerful than convention, and that the sexual instinct is far stronger and is manifested at an earlier stage of life in the tropics than in temperate regions. The institution of marraige regulates this overwhelming impulse, just as law does the equally powerful craving for revenge. Hence marriages in early life are good in themselves and a cause of good to society: and would be reformers should ponder well the lessons afforded by countless ruined careers the outcome of an undue postponement of the nuptail rites."

The biography is warmly appreciative without being needlessly laudatory; it gives on the whole a complete picture of the man, and in the book there is not a dull page. Dr. Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee essayed many parts, but was above all things, and almost in spite of himself, a journalist. As a boy at college he started a short-lived magazine; he was only a youth when he was appointed Editor of a daily paper in Calcutta; when he was not on the regular staff of a paper, the itch for writing made him a frequent contributor to the press. But he did not for a time realise that journalism was the profession for which he was best fitted. He was at different times Political Adviser, Nawab and Secretary to several native Princes, positions for which his virtues disqualified him as much as his abilities recommended him; he acted as Secretary to the Oudh Taluqdars' Association, and twice he made attempts to join the legal profession, but in spite of a natural bent in the direction of the law, he failed for one reason or another to follow up his intention to the extent of qualifying himself for practice. It was as editor of *Reis and Rayyet* that he chiefly distinguished himself and exercised his greatest influence. The bulk of the letters reproduced at the end of his biography belong to this period, beginning in 1882 and ending with his death in 1894. During that time he carried on correspondence with Sir Auckland Colvin, Lord Dufferin, and other men of influence, only a few passages of which, for obvious reasons, have been published. One of these letters---from Sir Auckland Colvin---has so much personal interest that it was worth giving in full. It is dated Government House, Naini Tal, May 27th, 1892, and runs thus :---

"My dear Dr. Mookerjee,---I write to thank you for your telegram and, although, as I see you think and as I feel, there is but little to congratulate me on, I appreciate the kindness of your message and admire its epigrammatic form.

The fact is, that after nine years as Councillor and Lieutenant-Governor I do not feel particularly grateful for a decoration which is ordinarily given when a man is appointed (not when he ceases to be) a Lieutenant-Governor.

My reward I look for in the results of my work - the reorganisation of the Oudh and Jhansi administration; the reform of the Police; the water supply of our five great municipalities; the success against scarcity in Kumaon and Garhwal in 1890, and again this year; the introduction of technical education, of a measure for Village Munsiffs' Court and Honorary Munsiffs; the great impetus given to vaccination in municipalities and in the rural tracts; the commencement made in village sanitation; the great and genuine extension of Female Hospitals; the obtaining from India of the two important lines of rail from (1) Lucknow to Benares *vid* Rai Bareilly, and (2) from Bareilly *vid* Rampur to Moradabad; the unravelling of the Rampur plot; the action taken in regard to criminal tribes and reformatories; Hume finally buffetted and Wheeler condemned---these things are more satisfaction to me than the stars in many firmaments.

* * *

I was glad to see Mr. Evans knighted, *

Well! all these are vanities. What is important to us all is health and sufficiency of means. I fear you lack the first, though 'Reis and Rayyet' alike contribute to the second. I take both into my retirement, and hope to avail myself of them in some form of literary work. I was born (like you) to write; and by cursed spite only went astray into practical administration."

A few of the letters addressed to Dr. Mookerjee are of such minor importance that they might have been omitted with advantage, but not a word of his own letters could have been spared. To say that he writes idiomatic English is to say what is short of the truth. His diction is easy and correct, clear and straightforward, without Oriental luxuriance or striving after effect. Perhaps he was never so charming as when he is laying down the laws of literary form to young aspirants to fame. The letter on page 235, for instance, is a delightful piece of criticism: it is delicate plain speaking, and he accomplishes the difficult feat of telling a would-be poet that his productions are not in the smallest degree poetry without, one may conclude, either offending the youth or repressing his ardour.

The letter from Professor Vambéry is also remarkable for its plain-speaking. Dr. Mookerjee had written referring to the Mahomedan and Hindu communities, "My ideal is to form a nation by a harmonious social fusion of the two component parts of the population under the British Crown," a statement of his views that might have led anyone unacquainted with his common-

sense methods to imagine him more of a visionary than he was. Professor Vambéry certainly addressed him in reply as if he had received that impression. He says, writing from Budapest in December 1889 :—

"In presenting yourself as 'an exceptional person who has always loved the Mahomedans as brethren and has earnestly tried to interpret between Hindus and Mahomedans and effect a union of hearts between two peoples whose social and political interests in India are identical,' you have certainly put before yourself a very useful, but at the same time a very arduous task. As far as my limited experience and unpretentious notions go, the solution of this problem in Asia has always seemed to me an unanswerable difficulty. You evidently know better than myself, that in Asia the partition wall between mankind is not the nationality, but religion. The Mahomedan scripture says—'All true believers are brethren,' as well as that unbelievers are one nation, a saying which implies a strict unity between the followers of one faith, and does not admit any partition by race or nationality. I am, therefore, at a loss to understand how your idea to form a nation by a harmonious social fusion of the two component parts of the population, sublime and high minded as that idea is, could be carried out without shaking the very foundation of the respective communities. Of course you are on the best way in proposing to effect that idea 'under the British Crown, which has given us such a strong and equitable Government as we could never hope to form ourselves ; which has advanced us to a new life, and is daily improving us, and which I devoutly pray will keep us in hand until the time comes under God's Providence when we are in a position to help ourselves.' This argument speaks decidedly whole volumes in favour of the soundness of your views. The time will and must come when many of our countrymen and co-religionists will share in these healthy views, but I beg leave to say that this time is yet very, very far, and that it would be much easier to make all Europe one community of a common interest and aim, than to mould the different nationalities and creeds of Hindustan into one nation. What you have to do is to proceed on the way inaugurated by your British teachers without any premature aspirations unfit and eventually dangerous to the present stage of culture of the great mass of the peoples of India. What you have achieved hitherto under the guidance of Great Britain and assisted by the innate splendid mental capacities of your people, is quite unique in the history of civilisation of mankind. Your hitherto made progress appears the best guarantee for the future development of India. You enjoy liberties which are the object of envy not only of all Asia and Russia, but also of many parts of Europe, and the benignant rays of liberty will certainly increase in the measure as the sun of enlightenment rises over the horizon of your vast and glorious country."

Dr. Mookerjee's opinions on public affairs are so well known from the pages of *Reis and Rayyet*, that it is hardly necessary to quote isolated references. One or two may, however, find a place. In February, 1891, writing of the Age of Consent agitation he says :

"As for ourselves, the time is one when everyone is bound to declare himself on one side or the other. I can only pity the handful who may have by independent thought come to the conclusion that the Age of Consent Bill interferes with the Hindu religion. Thank God, our religion is morcelastic than that! It stands a certain amount of clipping, especially in its dead twigs and leaves. In the interest of civilisation and our good name as a nation and the credit of our Rishis themselves every man who pretends to patriotism and culture among us should disavow the tricks of the Gaushadhanists."

Of the cow protection movement he wrote in September, 1893, to a fellow-Hindu :—

"You seem to have a superstitious dread of the word *special*. But be at your ease, no special laws have been rushed through the legislature for the destruction of the cow-protectionists. The law was already in existence under which Government are acting, and they will, you may be sure, do nothing which has not been repeatedly done before. And what was the harm in principle or in practice if they did something special in the way of legislation and administration? *Salus republicæ suprema lex.* That is exactly what your leaders and politicians are apt to forget. I respect law ; and justice I reverence above everything, but we should beware of making fetishes of these and paying them blind adoration. Great as law is, my friend, and greater as justice ; existence is above them all. You are profoundly ignorant of where you are. You are sleeping in the crater of a volcano. Government have already wasted much valuable time. They listened to your Bengal politicians who would lay the evil of Discord by holding brotherly meetings of Hindus and Moslems, and so forth. They would not take our stronger counsel ; they were afraid of you and your friends—the parliamentary badgers. But their policy of peace-at-any price only encouraged the spirit of lawlessness, and riot upon riot at last opened their eyes, and they decided to act with firmness. The effect cannot now be the same as before, specially if they adopt half measures as if they were

Willing to wound and yet afraid to strike.

These are difficult matters, and I am not surprised that, in default of special knowledge of the situation, you should be at sea. What surprises me is your talk on the cow-question, your protestation of toleration, &c., all ending in the remark that the riots have been caused by the action of the officials unduly favouring the Mahomedans. But it is useless to argue with one who at this hour says, 'a little rowdyism is needed.' It is a relief to know that you are no official. But then you would have talked differently, perhaps gone to the other pole. You are still young, Kisari, and it may befit you to be bellicose. I am past the years of recklessness and am for peace. War, even in my time, is not so horrible to contemplate from a safe distance at home. But I have no wit to see the fun of war within my own country and between our own people, and I pray to God to avert such a calamity from us."

For much more that is well worth reading we must refer readers to the volume itself. Intrinsically it is a book worth buying and reading, and it may also be noted that the profits of the publication go to the family of Dr. Mookerjee, who were not left too well provided for. It is hoped that a second edition may be called for, and having that in view we would suggest a careful re-reading for "literals" which will be found on the first page of the Dedication, and here and there throughout the book. On page 160 we should query the word "idiotisms ;" probably Dr. Mookerjee wrote "idioms." The full and useful index—Mr. Skrine in the course of his reading has marked and taken to heart Carlyle's recommendation—should be transferred to the close of the book.

A FEW INCHES OF PLAIN ENGLISH.

NOWADAYS men are doing all sorts of wonders by means of electricity, both in mechanics and in chemistry. I see by the papers that they expect to be able to produce real diamonds by it. Perhaps they may ; marvels never cease. But we will wait till they do before we crow over that job. Up to this time, anyway, everything that is both valuable and useful is the fruit of hard work. Even diamonds are mostly got out of rocky mines. And, within reasonable limits, it is good for us to have to work. Ten shillings honestly earned is better for a man than twenty in the shape of a legacy.

The best condition of things for any country would be when fair wages could be earned straight along, without loss or deduction for any reason. But in the present aspect of human affairs this is impossible. Whose fault it is we cannot now discuss.

One source of loss, however, is plain enough, and some remedy for it ought to be found. In England and Wales every working man averages ten days of illness per year, making the total loss of wages from this cause about £16,000,000 a year. We are talking of the *average*, you see. But inasmuch as *all* working-men are not ill every year, this average does not fairly show the suffering and loss of those who *are* ill. In any given year many will lose no time at all, while others may lose individually from ten days to six months each. No charity, no savings, no income from clubs, &c., can make up for this—even in money alone to say nothing of the pain and the misery.

Alluding to an experience of his in 1888 Mr. George Lagdon says, "I had to give up my work." How this came to pass he tells us in a letter dated from his home in White House Road, Stebbing, near Dunmow, August 24, 1892. He had no inherited disease or weakness, so far as he knew and was always strong and well up to April of that year—1888. Then his strength and energy began to leave him. He felt tired, not as from work, but as from power gone out of him through some bodily failure. He sat down to his meals, but not with his old eagerness and relish. There was a nasty copper-like taste in his mouth, his teeth and tongue were covered with slime, and his throat clogged with a kind of thick phlegm, difficult to "hawk up" and eject.

He also speaks of a nagging pain in the stomach, flatulency, and much palpitation of the heart as having been among his symptoms. As the ailment—whatever it was—progressed he began to have a hacking cough which, he says, seemed as if it must shake him to pieces. He could scarcely sleep on account of it. One of the most alarming features of his illness, however, were the night sweats, for the reason that they showed the existence of a source of weakness which must soon, unless arrested, end in total prostration. In fact he was obliged to give up his work altogether. To him—as to any one active man—this was like being buried alive.

One doctor whom Mr. Lagdon consulted said he was consumptive, and it did indeed look that way. "For twelve weeks," he says, "I went on like this, getting weaker and weaker, and having reason to believe that it would end in my taking the one journey from which no traveller returns.

"It was now July—summer time, when life to the healthy is so pleasant and full of hope. At this time my sister-in-law got from Mr. Linsells (Stebbing) a medicine that I had not tried yet. After having used one bottle I felt better, and when I had used the second I was cured, and *have not lost an hour's work since.*"

The reader will notice that between the date of his taking this medicine and the date of his letter there is an interval of four years. We may, therefore, infer that his cure was real and permanent. The medicine, by the way, was Mother Seigel's Curative Syrup. It is not likely he will forget its name nor what it did for him. His disease was indigestion and dyspepsia, the deadly enemy of every labouring man or woman under the sun, no matter what they work *at* or work *with*—hands, brains, or both.

Is it necessary to draw a "moral"—school-book style—from these facts? No, it is not. We have talked plain English, and that is enough.

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Introduced to the Nazim.
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Baffles his enemies.
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Becomes a schoolmaster.
A Private Secretary.
A serious dilemma.
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Becomes Prime Minister.
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Resigns his post.
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Founds "Reis and Rayyet"
"Travels and Voyages in Bengal."
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Disinterestedness.
Love of animals
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An admirer of Byron.
Drawbacks of journalism.
Mookerjee's "Essays."
His letters.
His correspondents.
Aim of this work.

CORRESPONDENCE OF DR. S. C MOOKERJEE

LETTERS

to, from Ardagh, Col. Sir J.C.,
to Atkinson, the late Mr. E.F.T., C.S
to Banerjee, Babu Jyotish Chunder
from Banerjee, the late Revd. Dr. K. M
to Banerjee, Babu Sarodaprasad.
from Bell, the late Major Evans.
from Bhaddaur, Chief of.
to Binaya Krishna, Raja.
to Chrlu, Rao Bahadur Ananda.
to Chatterjee, Mr. K. M.
from Clarke, Mr. S.E.J.
from, to Colvin, Sir Auckland.
to, from Dufferin and Ava, the Marquis of.
from Evans, the Hon'ble Sir Griffith H.P.
to Ganguli, Babu Kisari Mohan.
to Ghose, Babu Nabo Kissen.
to Ghosh, Babu Kali Prosanna.
to Graham, Mr. W.
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from Guha, Babu Saroda Kant.
to Hall, Dr Fitz Edward.
from Hume, Mr. Allan O.
from Hunter, Sir W. W.
to Jenkins, Mr. Edward.
to Jung, the late Nawab Sir Salar.
to Knight, Mr. Paul.
from Knight, the late Mr Robert.
from Lansdowne, the Marquis of.
to Law, Kumar Kristodas.
to Lyon, Mr. Percy C
to Mahomed, Moulvi Syed.
to Mallik, Mr. H. C.
to Marston, Miss Ann.
from Metha, Mr. R. D.
to Mitra, the late Raja Dr. Rajendralala.
to Mookerjee, late Raja Dakhinaranjan.
from Mookerjee, Mr. J. C.
from M'Neil, Professor H. (San Francisco)
to, from Murshidabad, the Nawab Bahadoor of.
from Nayaratna, Mahamahapadhya M. C.
from Osborn, the late Colonel Robert D.
to Rao, Mr G Venkata Appa.
to Rao, the late Sir T. Madhava.
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to Row, Mr G Syamala.
to Sastri, the Hon'ble A Sashiah.
to Sinha, Babu Brahmananda.
from Sircar, Dr Mahendralal
from Stanley, Lord, of Alderley.
from, to Townsend, Mr. Meredith.
to Underwood, Captain T. O
to, from Vambéry, Professor Arminius.
to Vencataramanieh, Mr. G.
to Vizianagram, Maharaja of.
to, from Wallace, Sir Donald Mackenzie.
to Wood-Mason, the late Professor J.

LETTERS(& TELEGRAMS) OF CONDOLENCE, from

Abdus Subhan, Moulvi A. K. M
Ameer Hossein, Hon'ble Nawab Syed.
Ardagh, Colonel Sir J. C.
Banerjee, Babu Manmathanath
Banerjee, Rai Bahadur, Shib Chunder.
Barth, M. A.
Belchambers, Mr R.
Deb, Babu Manahar
Dutt, Mr. O C.
Dutt, Babu Prosaddoss.
Elgin, Lord.
Ghose, Babu Norendra K.
Ghosh, Babu Kali Prasanna.
Graham, Mr William
Hall, Dr Fitz Edward
Haridas Viharidas Desai, the late Dewan.
Iyer, Mr. A. Krishnaswami
Lambert, Sir John
Mahomed, Moulvi Syed
Mitra, Mr. B. C
Mutter, Babu Sidheshur
Mookerjee, Raja Peary Mohan
Mookerjee, Babu Surendra Nath.
Murshidabad, the Nawab Bahadoor of.
Routledge, Mr. James.
Roy, Babu E. C
Roy, Babu Sarat Chunder.
Sanyal, Babu Dinabundho.
Savitri Library
Tippera, the Bara Thakur of.
Vambéry, Professor Arminius.
Vizianagram, the Maharaja of.

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After paying the expenses of the publication the surplus will be placed wholly at the disposal of the family of the deceased man of letters.

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OPINION OF THE PRESS

Mookerjee's letters are marvels of pure diction which is heightened by his nervous style ... The life has been told by Mr. Skrine in a very pleasant manner and which should make it popular not only with all those who are able to appreciate merit unmarred by ostentation and earnestness unspoiled by harshness.—The *Muhammadan*, Oct. 5, 1895

We may at any rate cordially agree with Mr. Skrine that the story of Mookerjee's life, with all its lights and shadows, is pregnant with lessons for those who desire to know the real India ... A man of large heart and great qualities, his death from pneumonia in the early spring in the last year was a distinct and heavy loss to Indian journalism, and it was an admirable idea on Mr Skrine's part to put his Life and Letters upon record.—The *Times of India*, September 30, 1895

The late Editor of *Reis and Rayyet* was a profound student and an accomplished writer, who has left his mark on Indian journalism In that he has found a Civilian like Mr Skrine to record the story of his life he is more fortunate than the great Kristodas Pal himself.—The *Tribune*, October 2, 1895.

It is rarely that the life of an Indian journalist becomes worthy of publication; it is more rarely still that such a life comes to be written by an Anglo-Indian and a member of the Indian Civil Service But, it has come to pass that in the land of the Bengali Babus, the life of at least one man among Indian journalists has been considered worthy of being written by an Englishman The *Madras Standard*, September 30, 1895

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Reis and Rayyet

(PRINCE & PEASANT)

WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

VOL. XIV. CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 26, 1895. WHOLE NO. 696.

CONTEMPORARY POETRY.

THE SUNYASSEE.

BY JAMES HUTCHINSON.

(Continued from p. 470.)

CANTO SECOND.

I.

I scorned them then! my haughty heart
Could well, with their unkindness cope;
And still, that sweet delusion hope,
Though fading, would not all depart.
And these were stirring times, for men,
Who knew the art, to wield a blade,
And trust me, such will come again;
But I may, then, be lowly laid.
Oh! I forgot my altered state,
Dreaming of times, when all elate,
And youthful blood was mantling warm,
I sought to test a stripling's arm.

* * *

II.

I took my sabre, in my hand,
My good shield, at my back, was slung, *
My turban red, in many a band,
And twist, was round my temples wrung;
I girt my loins, and took my way, †
Small cause had I, to grieve to part,
And less to dread, from robber fray,
My purse was lighter, than my heart;
But my good arm was stout, and strong,
No longer terrible seemed death,
And for the right,—perhaps the wrong,
I thus might traffic, with my breath,
For what, I valued then,—a name,—
Nor dreamt, what seemed a noble aim
Might end, in little less, than shame.
The time seemed fit; for still, there stood
Some remnants of our princely blood;
And still, my country's banners waved,
Tho' she herself was half enslaved;
And in my pride, I thought to try
My maiden blade, in cause so high.

III.

That Hydra vast, the English power,
Was then, but in its infancy,
But those, who knew, foresaw an hour,
If still unchecked, when it would be
More fatal to our liberty;
Already Tippoo overthrown, *
What state, with them, could cope, alone?
Moslem he was!—yet he did well,
Even, in the threshold, where he fell,
Of his own fort, and capital;
Even as Rajpoot might wish to fall,
So fell he, and when some low hind,
That should have stooped, his wounds to bind,
Would strip the Baldric, from his side,
All crimsoned, with life's purple tide,
With dying hand, he seized his glaive,
And meet reward he dealt the slave,
Or sought to deal, for he was low,
And weak the arm, that sped the blow.
The gallant act hath cost his life;
A bullet closed the, unequal strife;
And there, mid heaps of slain, he lay,
Till life, and rule had passed away,
And foreign standards floated o'er
Each bastion, battlement and tower!
Yes! I will all forget his creed,
Even, for that last, and bravest deed;
His hatred of the English name,
And for my failing country's fame,
Oh! that her chiefs had, but, forseen
The tide of change, that since hath been;
Then had they scorned the policy,
In hour of need, that spurned his call;
Aye! cursed the [illegible]id jealousy,
That sought to profit by his fall.

This description is quite consistent with the manners of the East. The Upper Provinces of India, a considerable portion of the populace go armed, and very few think of travelling, without being so. The equipment, described in the text, is the common one, for a person on foot; the horseman occasionally carries the spear and shield, or these two along with the sabre.

† To gird the loins is a very common phrase in Scripture, which is in hourly use, and is as often fulfilled in India. The kummur-bund or girdle is there worn by all the natives; it is generally taken off, when they wish to be at ease, and is again had recourse to, when duty or labour calls. To appear without it, or the turban, or with the shoes on, before a person of any consequence, is considered to be a great mark of disrespect offered.

* Tippoo Sooltan, the son of Hyder Alee, and sovereign of the independent state of Mysore was overthrown by the British Government, during the administration of the Marquess of Wellesley. In the assault and capture of the Fort of Seringapatam, on the 4th of May 1799, Tippoo was killed, as described in the text, and the sovereignty of Mysore passed from his family. His descendants still reside under surveillance, at Russuh, near Calcutta.

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IV.

Next sank the Peishwa's vaunted sway,
Thro' British craft, and civil strife ; *
He fancied, as a dotard may,
A realm might stand, without its life,
Strong, willing, native hearts, and hands,
To point the gun, or wield their brands,
And trusted, as a traitor might,
His realm's defence to its worst foes,
And fatal, as the deadliest blight,
Soon proved the dastardly repose.

(To be continued)

WEEKLYANA.

LAST week we completed the first part of The Sunyassee. To-day we begin the second canto. The disappointed lover turns a patriot, prates on the past glory of India and her future greatness and girds himself up to free the country from the Franks. The author of the poem was a surgeon on the Bengal Establishment, Secretary to the Medical Board of the Presidency, and Private Secretary to the Honourable the President of the Council in India. The year of the poem is 1837 and it was composed in the Cape of Good Hope where the author, after an uninterrupted residence of nearly seventeen years in India, had gone to seek renewed health. He says in the preface that "the historical sketch embodied in the Poem, is strictly in accordance with what are considered the most authentic records of the times, and I have the opinion of a very competent person, for believing, that the plan of the Poem is natural, with reference to that portion of India, in which the scene is laid; and that the transition of an impetuous young man, from an unfortunate lover, to a warrior, a free-booter, and an ascetic, is in accordance, with the contingencies of fortune, in the East." The picture is substantially as true in 1895 as it was in 1837, with this difference that the Indian Continent being now disarmed by law, there is no more the patriot's call to arms, but the patriotism of the day is confined chiefly to preaching of Hinduism for the regeneration of India.

***

A SUBURBAN "independent weekly of Politics, Literature, and Art," with guaranteed circulation of over 7,000 copies weekly, edited by a Graduate, couples the Christmas of the Christians and the Doorga Puja of the Hindus of Bengal with the Mahurrum of the Mahomedans. The journal is truly independent—making no distinction between birth and death, joy and sorrow.

***

MRS. Langtry has been robbed of jewels valued, according to the bills paid, at 40,000*l.* While leaving England for Baden-Baden, she, as is her wont, deposited a tin box containing most of her jewellery at the Sloane Street Branch of the Union Bank. During her absence a stranger took delivery of the box on an order purporting to be from her to the Bank. On her return she was surprised to learn that the box was not in the Bank being removed in her name. A reward of 500*l.* has been offered for recovery of the jewels.

***

A DARING day robbery in the streets of London is reported.

"Just before seven o'clock in the morning of September 25, the train from Wales brought to London five cases of ingot silver, consigned by Messrs. Vivian and Co., Swansea, to Messrs. Sharp and Wilkins, Winchester Street, London Wall. It appears that it is not an unusual thing for these ingots to be transferred from the works at Swansea to London, and they frequently come twice a week. The ingots stolen—thirty-one in number—were enclosed in five large cases. Each case was composed of heavy timber, bound with iron bands, and the openings were secured by screw bolts. The ingots of silver were shaped like a river punt, with a flat top measuring in length 15½ inches, while the ends and sides being cut off at an angle left the bottom 10 inches in length. Each ingot was 5 inches wide at the top and 4 inches deep, and on the bottom of each ingot were the initials 'V. and S.,' together with a number. The numbers ranged consecutively from 556 upwards. The ingots varied in weight from 947 oz. to 1,271 oz., the total weight being 34,984 oz., valued at 4,800*l.* When the five cases arrived at St. Pancras, they were, as usual, entrusted to the driver of a waggon who was accustomed to convey them to their destination. At seven o'clock the van-driver, with his boy, left the Midland depot with his valuable load for London Wall. Scarcely had he left the station when, according to his statement, he pulled up at one of the many coffee-houses which exist for the convenience of carmen in the neighbourhood of Phœnix Street and Ossulton Street. According to the statements to hand the carman and his boy were inside the coffee-house for a space of twenty minutes partaking of their breakfast. When they emerged into Ossulton Street they found that the van and its contents had disappeared."

***

HERE is an American parson's parting benediction to his flock:—

"Brothers and sisters, I come to say good-by. I don't think God loves this church, because none of you ever die. I don't think you love each other, because I never marry any of you. I don't think you love me because you have not paid my salary; your donations are mouldy fruit and wormy apples; and 'by their fruit ye shall know them.' Brothers, I am going away to a better place. I have been called to be chaplain of a penitentiary. Where I go ye cannot come, but I go to prepare a place for you, and may the Lord have mercy on your souls. Good-by."

***

A FRENCH medical journal—*La Médicine Moderne*—calls the recent Medical Congresses *Babels Scientifiques*, Scientific Babels.

***

The Medical Annual for 1895, speaking of Hydrophobia, says that "Diller, in an exceedingly interesting report upon this disease, in which he gives statistics in regard to seventy-eight cases, is of the opininn that many of the so-called cases are 'utterly incredible and wholly spurious. He deplores the popular agitation which has attended the establishment of so-called 'Pasteur Institutes,' which have undoubtedly led to the increase of hystero-epilepsy both in this country and France, and lays little reliance upon the statistics of the ardent supporters of the founder of the inoculation cure and his followers."

***

THE *Monthly Magazine of Pharmacy* has the following remarks:

"The celebrated Professor Von Pettenkofer, who a short time ago, when seventy-four years of age, swallowed the celebrated *comma*-bacillus of Koch (the cholera-bacillus) in presence of many eminent witnesses, and without interfering much with his general health (though he has suffered from glycosuria for years), has dealt a severe blow to the germ theory of disease, and he has now, in Germany, a large number of followers. He does not deny that germs (bacteria) may be a factor in disease, which he calls *x*, but there is another factor, *z*, which is individual idiosyncrasy, and yet a third, *y*, which still remains to be determined, and the latter is the cause of epidemics. The latter attack certain districts where *y* exists, quite independently of *x* and *z*, and respect other districts where *y* is absent. The x y z theory of Dr. Von Pettenkofer is now attracting much attention, and it is believed that when the real nature of *y* is discovered, it will be in our power to prevent epidemics of all kinds. The determination of *y* is the great medical problem of the present day."

***

HERE is a cure for cholera. A correspondent writes to a Bombay paper:—

"In view of the telegram from St. Petersburg respecting the outbreak of cholera in that city it may be useful to mention that a very simple specific for that disease exists, although I have reason to think it is known to few. If the sufferer is given strong pure coffee in the early stages of the symptoms I believe it to be an unfailing remedy. I must emphasize the necessity of its being both strong and absolutely pure. Add to about one-third of a cup of coffee two-thirds of boiling water, and drink as soon as sufficiently cool to take with a spoon, repeating the dose several times, and the cramp together with the pains in the abdomen will be found to gradually subside. The action of the coffee seems to be that of clearing the stomach and intestines of the cholera poison; and at the same time is mildly stimulating. I have several times tried this remedy in England and once recently in Bombay with marked success in every case. I may add that during the cholera epidemic at Hamburg a few years ago it was successfully administered in hundreds of cases, and it is worthy of remark that while the doctors utterly failed in their endeavours to grapple with the dread disease by means of drugging, in no single instance did pure coffee fail to effect a cure."

Will habitual use of coffee ward off the disease? Or is coffee any preventive of cholera?

* Formerly the Peishwah was the head of the Mharattah empire, a confederacy not very dissimilar to that, which long existed in Europe, under the name of the German Empire. The name signifies minister, and such, the Peishwahs originally were of the Rajah of Sattarah; His Highness however prided himself more, in being the spiritual head of the Empire, and the consequence was, that his house fell into comparative insignificance, and that the Peshwahs became *de facto*, the head of the Mharatta Government.

The circumstance, alluded to in the poem, is that of the Peishwah having made an alliance with the British Government, during the administration of the Marquess of Wellesley, by which he entrusted the defence of his kingdom to the English, while he retained the Civil Government in his own hands. In the Pindaree war of 1817 the last Peishwah was defeated at Mahidpore, and subsequently surrendered himself up; he now remains a state prisoner, on a handsome allowance, at Bittoor near Cawnpore.

CANCEROUS tumours are not infrequent in India. A cure of such a growth by belladonna is thus reported by Doctor Wingfield, in *Monthly Review*.

"*Belladona and Cancer.*—A woman, aged fifty, with a swelling in the right breast, which had been noticed for six months and was increasing in size, applied at the Birmingham Hospital. The tumour was hard but moveable, situated below the nipple, which was unmistakably retracted. Glands not enlarged, but much pain down right arm. It was decided the growth was cancerous, and that the breast should be removed. Preparatory to the operation, Belladonna was ordered internally, and, strange to say, in a fortnight's time all symptoms had disappeared and no trace of the tumour was to be discovered."

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AN American medical journal says :—

"A correspondent of the New York *Medical Times* speaks very disparagingly of the clinical thermometer, a circumstance that brings to mind the fact that in Joseph Price's hospital in Philadelphia the thermometer is never used

It is notorious that this instrument is often a factor for evil—that too many practitioners *treat the thermometer* instead of the patient."

Very true. Young or hasty practitioners pay much heed to the clinical thermometer. The very maid-servants of respectable families in and about Calcutta speak of fevers as registering so many degrees of heat above the normal temperature. The patient, his relatives and friends are alarmed by the family physician telling them the readings of the thermometer when, in fact, the fever is not at all dangerous.

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THE following Song of the General Practitioner by Dr. J. Johnston, was sung at the annual dinner of a Medical Society in the U. S., A. Some of the inconveniences of the profession have been happily hit by the writer.

"He must not walk his rounds for fear his patients think him poor,
And dearly do they love to see a carriage at their door ;
And if his horse is fat, 'He must have little work to do,'
And if it's lean, the reason is, 'He starves the poor old screw.'

Should he call upon his patients every day when they are ill,
His motive plainly is, 'to make a great big doctor's bill' ;
If he visits them less frequently—thus lessening their expense—
The chances are he'll be accused of wilful negligence.

He must work all day and half the night, and never say he's tired ,
For the public look upon him simply as a servant hired.
And should he take a holiday, he'll find, when he comes back,
Some patients have resented it by giving him 'the sack.'

Concerning money, he must seem indifferent to be,
And folks will think he practices from pure philanthropy.
When we hear about him boasting of the guineas that he earns,
We wonder if they all appear in his income-tax returns.

About his own afflictions he must never say a word ;
The notion of a doctor being ill is so absurd !
And when, perhaps from overwork, he's laid upon the shelf,
His sympathizing patients say, 'Physician, heal thyself !'"

NOTES & LEADERETTES,

OUR OWN NEWS,

&

THE WEEK'S TELEGRAMS IN BRIEF, WITH OCCASIONAL COMMENTS.

LORD Salisbury has issued another ultimatum, this time to Venezuela, demanding the settlement of the long standing British claims. His foreign policy has the support of the Liberal party. Lord Rosebery, speaking at Scarboroug, congratulated Lord Salisbury on the Armenian settlement.

LORD Dufferin having resigned, Lord Salisbury has been appointed Warden of the Cinque Ports.

OCTOBER 21st being the anniversary of the battle of Trafalgar, the leading English newspapers of that morning unanimously urged the upholding of Great Britain's naval supremacy.

AT a banquet given at Kingston in honour of Sir Richard Temple, Mr. Curzon, Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs, emphasized the task of the Foreign Office in providing for the necessary and legitimate expansion of the commerce and commercial position of England in the Far East, where, he had reason to fear, the British position was affected, and is engaging special attention

THE *Times* has been found tripping. The journal that brought itself into exceptional prominence by unusual enterprise regarding the hiding place of a noted statesman while the rest of the English press mourned his death, has been misled into announcing the death of General Hugh Rowlands.

GENERAL Baratieri has arrived at Makelle Ras, and Mangascia is suing for peace. It is reported at Massowah that King Menelek was struck by lightning in his tent, and was deprived of the power of speech

ADVICES from Antananarivo state that General Duchesne will remain temporarily at Emyrna with a part of his troops. The Hova Queen has requested all her subjects who have fled from Antananarivo to return. A letter thence, dated the 4th instant, states that on the eve of the entry of the French into the capital, the mob massacred and mutilated the French prisoners in the hands of the Hovas. The excellent behaviour of the French has had a reassuring effect on the natives.

THERE is a recrudescence of cholera at Damietta. Nine deaths occurred on Friday and six on Saturday. Several cases are reported at Mensurah, whither hundreds of inhabitants of Damietta fled when the outbreak occurred.

IT is understood that Prince Lobanoff, the Russian Foreign Minister, in an interview with the Emperor William, expressed the hope that the Czar would see his Imperial Majesty and the Emperor Francis Joseph after the coronation. Prince Lobanoff said that he was convinced that France desired to maintain peace The prince also said that Russia was unable to tolerate the Japanese establishing themselves in Corea, where they would be a continual menace to Russia and China. We have a confirmation of this belief in two subsequent telegrams. Thus : Three cruisers have been ordered to reinforce the Russian squadron in the Pacific, which has been instructed to cruise off Corea to be ready for any emergency in that quarter. The *Times'* correspondent at Hongkong telegraphs that Russia has concluded a treaty with China securing the right of anchorage at Port Arthur for her fleet, also a right to construct and work railways through Manchuria to Vladivostok and Port Arthur, also various commercial advantages outside the most favoured nation clause

A TELEGRAM from Hongkong states that the Black Flag Chief, commanding the rebels at Taiwanfu in Formosa, has fled It is expected that the Black Flags will now surrender, and that the Japanese will occupy Taiwanfu.

A MEMORIAL addressed to Prince Hohenlohe, the German Chancellor, regards the new German settlements at Tientsin and Hankow as inadequate, and urges the Chancellor strongly to acquire the Chusan Islands regardless of the ill-will of the other Powers.

JAPAN has ratified the terms arranged with the Powers, namely, to evacuate the Liaotung Peninsula within three months, *i. e.*, at the end of January. China's payment of thirty million taels and the freedom of navigation of the Formosa Channel are to be assured. Japan promises not to cede Formosa or the Pescadores to any Power. The agreement with Spain fixes the twentieth parallel as the boundary between the Phillippines and Formosa

REUTER'S correspondent at Constantinople states that the existence of a serious revolutionary propaganda has been discovered by the Turkish authorities at Adana and Aleppo for the purpose of enlisting young Armenians and supplying them with arms and ammunition, which have been secretly imported.

THE *Standard's* correspondent at Constantinople telegraphs that fifty members of the Turkish liberal party have been summarily tried and executed.

REUTER'S special correspondent at Constantinople confirms the report that many leaders of the reform party are missing. The *Standard's* correspondent goes further and says that the leaders were taken on board a man-of-war's boats at night and thrown overboard.

THE King of Portugal has abandoned his intended visit to Rome owing to the Pope insisting on his Majesty visiting the Vatican first on his arrival there, otherwise, his Holiness would withdraw the Papal Nuncio from Lisbon.

LORD George Hamilton, Secretary of State for India, has consented to receive a deputation of Manchester employers and operatives.

HER Majesty the Queen has approved of the nomination of Mr. J. Woodburn to the Vice egal Council

THE Maharaja of Jodhpur, His Highness Raj Rajeshwar Maharaj-Adhiraj Sir Jaswant Singh Bahadar, Knight Grand Commander of the Most Exalted Order of the Star of India, died on Friday, the 11th of October The funeral procession, the next day, covered three-quarters of a mile in length and was swelled by 60,000 persons of all castes, creeds, and grades of society. He was born in 1837 and succeeded to the gadi, on the death of Raja Takht Singh, in 1873. The next Raja is a minor, and there will be the usual Council of Regency, or the present rule of the Minister and the Resident will continue in another name. The late Maharaja had long ceased or was not allowed to take any active part in the administration. The late Rai Bahadur Hardyal Singh, Secretary to the Musahib Ala of Marwar, who died in July 1894, held for a time the supreme hand in the State next to the Resident, Western Rajputna States, to be superseded by the Maharaja's brother Sir Pratap Singh who has been practically the ruler. The outside world know him better than the Chief who has just died to the grief of his 1,750 403 subjects—Hindus, Mahomedans and Jains.

THE prosecution, at Dhulia, of the Mahomedans charged with rioting and being members of an unlawful assembly has ended. Four of the prisoners have been convicted and sentenced to imprisonment, and one man fined The first accused, Makhanshah Valad Bhowtashah, has also been convicted for assaulting Head Constable Pandwrang Luxman in the discharge of his duty, and sentenced to one year's rigorous imprisonment. Valad Makhan and Rifu Valad Khid Monum have got six weeks' rigorous imprisonment, and Abdul Kharim Valad Hoosein ud-din six months. Abdul Aziz has been fined Rs. 200, in default of payment to suffer fifteen days' simple imprisonment.

THE Madras High Court has held that a bicycle is a vehicle with springs, and as such taxable by the Municipality. We may now see a revival of the attempt to tax such conveyances in Calcutta. The Calcutta Municipal Act defines a "carriage," on which a tax is imposable, as "any wheeled vehicle with springs used for the conveyance of human beings, and ordinarily drawn by an animal," any of the wheels exceeding twenty-four inches in diameter.

THE following note, extracted from the *North Carolina Medical Journal* of September 1895, on bicycle riding has equal interest in India where such riding is rapidly becoming general.

"This mode of locomotion, which was started a few years ago as a pure and simple sport, has been rapidly developed into a necessity to the public—not that we *could* not do without the bicycle, for as we did without it once, so we can again—but it is a necessity in the same sense as the telephone and other such inventions. From the old-time buggy-wheel affair, with its wooden spokes and iron tire, which rattled down the streets like a run-a-way express wagon, the wheel has passed through the several stages of evolution until it has attained the high degree of perfection we see in the modern spider-web wheel, with its ball bearings and pneumatic tires, which enable the rider to spin along at a rate of twelve or fifteen miles an hour without jar or noise and with a minimum of exertion

Is it any wonder that the desire to mount the silent steed has swept over the land like a great tidal wave until it has seized upon all classes and conditions of people? The old man and the matron, the young man and the maid, the rich and the poor, the high and the low, the professional man and the laborer, the healthy and the sick, we see them all spinning along the streets and boulevards of the city and along the pikes and bypaths of the rural districts, casting aside all care and worry, drinking in the life-giving oxygen, their faces radiant with pleasure, as they enjoy what may well be called the poetry of motion.

Numerous articles have appeared from time to time in the medical and lay papers, some of which seem to us to have been written from a prejudiced standpoint. In view of the wonderful popularity of the wheel, it is but right that its effects on the people should be considered. How will it affect the health and the morals of those who ride? As physicans we are bound to give attention to the former. It is the tendency of modern civilization to exercise the brain and not the body. The business man boards a crowded car and rides to his office, where he keeps himself confined until it is time to leave for home; the women pass days at a time in ill-ventilated houses, the atmosphere of which is contaminated by sewer gas, and when they do go out wrap themselves in furs and ride in close carriages, if it be winter, and imagine they are taking exercise! With such sedentary habits is it any wonder that nervous and digestive troubles are so common? Men join gymnasiums and women physical culture classes, but they soon look upon this as an irksome duty and abandon it. Walking has but little attraction. Something is needed to draw these people into the open air, and from personal experience we know of no form of exercise so gentle, so universal and so peculiarly attractive as bicycling. The opposers of the exercise may be answered, we feel convinced, by the assertion that it is the abuse, and not the use, of the bicycle which causes injury. The person who wishes to ride should find out from some one qualified to judge, what would be the abuse of the wheel in his particular case, and then should avoid that abuse. The extreme stooped position is an abuse with all riders, and is unnecessary even in hill-climbing All speed of over eight miles an hour may be an abuse with one rider, while a fifteen-mile gait may not be with another. One may safely ride twenty-five or thirty miles, while another should not ride more than five or six, or even two, without resting. Each rider must have rules for himself. It would be an abuse of the wheel for some persons to attempt to ride at all. Let the bicycle be ridden as it should be and it will do good to the healthy and to the invalid.

There is no more reason against a woman's riding a bicycle than against her swimming. From an anatomical standpoint, it would be better adapted to women than to men. From the standpoint of experience there is every reason for her indulging in the sport. Dr Charles R. Townsend has studied the effect of the bicycle upon women based upon the experience and statements of eighteen lady riders and physicians. His conclusions are 'that bicycling is beneficial to women, not from any special effect upon the pelvic organs, but because it is an agreeable, healthful form of exercise in the open air, a form which exercises the whole body, and indirectly benefits special conditions. And the converse of this holds true, that, as a general exercise, bicycling is not hurtful to the pelvic organs, even when these are affected, unless the disease is so acute that any exercise as great as this is contraindicated."

At the present day, woman being equal to man, any exercise devised for him becomes her as well

BEFORE the citizens of Calcutta have heard the last of the massacre in the native quarter, another tragedy of double violent deaths has convulsed the commercial portion of the city Last Thursday evening two not very well attended funeral processions forming one passed by this office. The hearses contained coffins covering the remains of two intimate friends—Mr. W. Collingwood, aged 32, master pilot, and Mr. J. G. Pugh, aged 25, of Messrs, Massey and Pugh, jute broker and Messrs. Pugh, Schollay & Co., Ld., jute bailers. The first was a married man with a wife, the other was a bachelor but respectably connected. Formerly the two friends lived together at Cama Street. Recently they removed to the top flat of the Commerce Buildings, No. 3, in the first floor of which Messrs. Pugh have the office. Mrs. Collingwood with her cousin Miss. Palmer occupied one room, the two dead occupying another. On Wednesday, after office, Mr. Pugh, as usual, went out on a walk accompanied by his dog There was no indication that anything unusual was the matter with him. Then, as was their wont, the family of Mr. Collingwood and Mr Pugh dined together and, so far as is known, nothing happened then to disturb the even tenour of their apparently happy lives. The only incident happening in the interval of the walk and the dinner, if it in any way led to the tragedy that was reserved till after the dinner was the despatch of a letter from 'Theatre Road to the address according to one account, of Mrs. Collingwood, and according to another, of Mr. Pugh. Shortly after ten o'clock both the friends were dead—one at the verandah and the other at the room. Both were weltering in blood, the deaths being violent. There is no inclination that a stranger to the house had done the bloody deed No suspicion rests on any of the servants. The friends must have come by their deaths between themselves. The head of the elder m

smashed—apparently with a dumb-bell that lay close by covered with blood, and the younger had shot himself dead. The presumption is that Pugh killed Collingwood and then killed himself. But why? That is a mystery which is not likely to be solved.

On the report of the gun or the report of her ayah, Mrs. Collingwood came out of her room, and, finding her husband and her friend weltering in blood, presumably dead, ordered the garry and drove down to 8, Middleton Street, to Mr. Massey, her friend's partner in the jute brokers' business. She is evidently not on friendly terms with the other families living on the same flat, or perhaps could not, in the excitement of the moment, think of calling in any other aid, medical or other, near at hand. She remembered Mr. Massey as the best man to whom he could apply for advice and assistance. Mr. Massey came, saw and—informed the Police, at about midnight. The police enquiry elicited little to account for the deaths. The neighbours had no information to give and the native servants of a European household in matters of this kind are absolutely useless. The bodies were removed for *post mortem* examination. The coroner's inquest has not concluded.

Intimate in life, the two friends are intimate in death. Both died together, both were given Christian burial in the same cemetery in the Circular Road, they were laid side by side, the same priest prayed for the peace of their souls.

No further seek their merits to disclose,
Or draw their frailties from their dread abode,
(There they alike in trembling hope repose,)
The bosom of their Father and their God.

A NATIVE is a native. He may be a superior in office to a European as the term is understood in India, still the Native must be subordinate to the European. A European servant in a native household or business establishment has precedence given him by the native servants over the head of their employer. Such is British prestige in India. No wonder, therefore, that in the daily Police reports in the morning papers, the Hon'ble Nawab Syed Ameer Hossein, C. I. E., the Chief Magistrate, has the second place, the first being reserved for Mr. Bimaud, the other stipendiary magistrate.

SHAHZADA Nasirulla Khan, having been lionised in England, has returned to India and been sent back to his father safe and sound and, let us hope, much improved in mind. With return to his own, he ceases to be a wonder.

THE prosecution of the Kaviraj in the Calcutta Police Court for obscenity in his descriptive catalogue of medicines, has been allowed to drop, he undertaking to eliminate the objectionable passages. It was intended as a warning to him and others. The next offender will not be so lightly treated. The Police Commissioner should direct his attention to vernacular publications which largely deal in smut.

THE bearer of the well-known initials "G. A. S.," the famous George Augustus Sala, one of the greatest living masters of the English language, is extremely ill. We fear much his pecuniary affairs have made him so and stand in the way of his quick recovery He is largely involved and his creditors are upon him. A pension of £100 a year from the Civil List has been granted him and there is a rumour that the *Daily Telegraph* has pensioned him off with a thousand a year. Without being burdened with a large family, having only himself and his wife to maintain, and without being a book-sellers' hack, it is a surprise that he should be in such a predicament. Probably he lived beyond his income, and the journal bearing his name, we are told, has landed him in difficulties. Major Evans Bell, almost similarly circumstanced, died of poverty, for no help came when he needed it most. We hope no such fate awaits Mr. Sala.

OUR Jamalpur correspondent reports that of late Honorary Benches of Magistrates have a large number of cases to dispose of, and that barristers-at-law appear before them instead of Mukhtears and Pleaders. This, he says, indicates confidence in the Benches, both of Government and the public. If the Honorary Magistrates can keep their head unturned and maintain the dignity of the court, they are indeed worthy of praise.

THE Viceroy is on tour Accompanied by Lady Elgin, Mr. Cunningham, Mr. Babington Smith, Dr. Franklin and others, he left Simla, under the usual salute, on the morning of Thursday. Dining at Umballa, he left it the same night for Agra, where he made a public entry on Friday. At the railway station Lord Elgin was received by the officiating Lieutenant-Governor of the N.-W. Provinces, the Maharaja of Karauli, the Rana of Dholpur and the Nawab of Rampur. After the usual exchange of civilities with the leading persons present, the Municipal Corporation, on behalf of the city, welcomed Lord Elgin with an address which was read by the Vice-President. The Viceroy thanked the Commissioners for the loyal welcome, and in the course of his reply, said:

"I need not remind you as men of business that when we speak of the state of the Imperial Exchequer, that does not imply that we are counting the cash which may at any moment be in the treasury, but that we have to look to other considerations and particularly to watch carefully the demands that have been made upon the general taxpayer. Unfortunately during the past two years the Government of India has had to make increased demands upon the general taxpayer, and we have just seen in the last few hours how that sensitive instrument the money market, upon which the commercial transactions of the country depend, may suddenly upset the best calculations. Therefore, though I do not differ from the opinion expressed elsewhere, that the financial prospects of Government are brightening, I should be holding out false hopes if I led you to expect at present any material alteration in the conditions, fair and honourable as they have been, of the assistance we can offer you."

Speaking of religious disturbances, he remarked:

"Gentlemen, I feel deeply thankful that it is not necessary for me to-day to repeat the solemn warning of my predecessor, which you have alluded to in the concluding paragraph of your address. You have given just credit to the energy of the local authorities in fearlessly carrying out their policy impartially both in the tolerance of opinion and the suppression of disorder, which Lord Lansdowne proclaimed, and to which the Government of India unreservedly adhere, but I have equal pleasure in joining with you in placing beside the action of the executive as instrumental in the cause of peace, the good sense of the people, and I would add the efforts made in various parts of the country by leading members of the various phases of religious thought, by whom, I gratefully acknowledge, much has been done to promote good-will and remove the causes of strife. I trust they will never forget, but rather increasingly appreciate, how much of responsibility lies with them."

Next Lord and Lady Elgin, with a strong cavalry escort of the 5th Lancers in white uniform, drove to Jeypore House about three miles distant from the railway station. There at noon Lord Elgin received visits from the native Chiefs who were present at the railway station. The Rana of Dholpur and the Nawab of Rampur conversed in English—a sign of the times. In the afternoon the viceregal party visited the famous Fort and returned the visits of the Chiefs. After dinner, there was a Levée.

REIS & RAYYET.

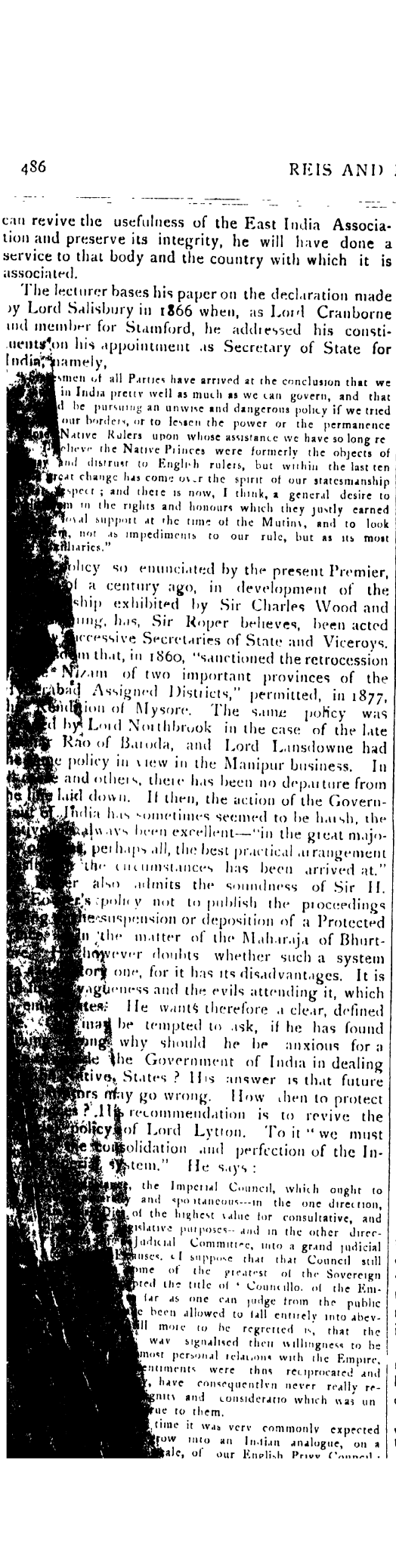
Saturday, October 26, 1895

A DIET OF INDIAN NATIVE PRINCES.

THE control of the East India Association having passed to the conductors of the "Imperial and Asiatic Quarterly Review and Oriental and Colonial Record," the Society has now no separate journal of its own. The proceedings of that body, however, occasionally find their way to the Quarterly. Its last number, that of October, gives the minutes of a meeting of the Association held, under the presidency of the Earl of Cranbrook, a Past Secretary of State for India, on the 11th July, in the Westminster Town Hall. It also publishes the paper read on that occasion by Sir Roper Lethbridge on "The Sovereign Princes of India and their relation to the Empire." The subject is welcome to every Indian who has the good of his country at heart and the managers of the Quarterly have taken particular care, for which our thanks are due to them, to make the lecture widely known. Coming from the authors of *Protected Princes of India* and *Our Indian Protectorate*, the claim of Sir Roper to speak on the subject may be doubted. As one who has seen service in India and been attached to the Foreign Department of the Gove[illegible] as Press Commissioner, as autho[illegible] *Book of India*, and as one wh[illegible] or India is growing every day, Sir R[illegible] deserving of a hearing. If, again, [illegible] n India, he

can revive the usefulness of the East India Association and preserve its integrity, he will have done a service to that body and the country with which it is associated.

The lecturer bases his paper on the declaration made by Lord Salisbury in 1866 when, as Lord Cranborne and member for Stamford, he addressed his constituents on his appointment as Secretary of State for India, namely,



"Statesmen of all Parties have arrived at the conclusion that we govern India pretty well as much as we can govern, and that we should be pursuing an unwise and dangerous policy if we tried to extend our borders, or to lessen the power or the permanence of the Native Rulers upon whose assistance we have so long relied. I believe the Native Princes were formerly the objects of jealousy and distrust to English rulers, but within the last ten years a great change has come over the spirit of our statesmanship in this respect; and there is now, I think, a general desire to maintain in the rights and honours which they justly earned by their loyal support at the time of the Mutiny, and to look upon them, not as impediments to our rule, but as its most valuable auxiliaries."

The policy so enunciated by the present Premier, half a century ago, in development of the statesmanship exhibited by Sir Charles Wood and Lord Canning, has, Sir Roper believes, been acted upon by successive Secretaries of State and Viceroys. He claims that, in 1860, "sanctioned the retrocession to the Nizam of two important provinces of the Hyderabad Assigned Districts," permitted, in 1877, the annexation of Mysore. The same policy was followed by Lord Northbrook in the case of the late Gaekwar Rao of Baroda, and Lord Lansdowne had the same policy in view in the Manipur business. In Travancore and others, there has been no departure from the lines laid down. If then, the action of the Government of India has sometimes seemed to be harsh, the policy has always been excellent—"in the great majority, perhaps all, the best practical arrangement under the circumstances has been arrived at." Sir Roper also admits the soundness of Sir H. Durand's policy not to publish the proceedings connected with the suspension or deposition of a Protected Prince. In the matter of the Maharaja of Bhurtpore he however doubts whether such a system is satisfactory one, for it has its disadvantages. It is open to the vagueness and the evils attending it, which he enumerates. He wants therefore a clear, defined policy. One may be tempted to ask, if he has found fault with the past why should he be anxious for a clear policy for the Government of India in dealing with the Native States? His answer is that future Governors may go wrong. How then to protect the States? His recommendation is to revive the Imperial policy of Lord Lytton. To it "we must look for the consolidation and perfection of the Indian system." He says:

"I suggest, the Imperial Council, which ought to have been created and spontaneous—in the one direction, [illegible] of the highest value for consultative, and in the other legislative purposes—and in the other direction, the Judicial Committee, into a grand judicial Court of Appeal for Princes, I suppose that that Council still exists, but some of the greatest of the Sovereign Princes adopted the title of 'Councillor of the Empire.' So far as one can judge from the public press, it has been allowed to fall entirely into abeyance. What is still more to be regretted is, that the Queen in a very marked way signalised then willingness to be associated in most personal relations with the Empire, and that her sentiments were thus reciprocated and appreciated, have consequently never really received the dignity and consideration which was undoubtedly due to them.

At one time it was very commonly expected that this would grow into an Indian analogue, on a smaller scale, of our English Privy Council; and that it would ultimately include, not only the great Princes of India, but also the heads of the British Indian Government. And if such an august body had been strengthened on its judicial side—much as the House of Lords is strengthened by the Law Lords—by the addition of the Chief Justice of the Supreme Courts, it was thought by many that it would form an ideal tribunal, admirably qualified to deal, by the machinery of Committees, with every case of difficulty arising between the Empire and the Sovereign Princes, or between the Princes themselves, or between them and their subjects. I do not wish for a moment to be understood to say that all these developments were within the purview of Lord Lytton's intentions; for I do not know that it was so, though I believe it. But it is obvious that they might have fairly and reasonably arisen out of the measures adopted by that Viceroy; and my desire this afternoon is to advocate the taking up again of Lord Lytton's liberal Imperial policy of 1877, with a view of carrying it to its legitimate conclusion. Of one thing I am quite sure, that Lord Lytton's warmly sympathetic and generous nature of which I knew much both as a friend and as a subordinate, would never have rested content with the present chaos which is as unfair to the Princes as it must be occasionally distressing to every high-minded Viceroy and Secretary of State."

The suggestion is no doubt good, at any rate, intended to do good. It affords a tribunal for justice to our Princes who are not unoften punished for no offence of their own, who are kept out of their rights by intrigues and false reports, and condemned unheard. But will it be accepted? In the trial of Mulhar Rao, Lord Northbrook ventured on such an experiment It has not been repeated. Several years ago Lord Stanley of Alderley tried but failed to get an Appeal Court composed of High Court Judges appointed to try cases like, say, the Chamba succession. If such a Court existed, Suchait Singh, the rightful ruler, would not be dragging a miserable existence in England where he had gone for justice. He was kept out on a false statement of his relation with the Raja he was to have succeeded. One baste-born was put on the guddee to extinguish the claim of the legal heir. The deceiving report was corrected three weeks later as a clerical error, after the trick had succeeded. The attention of the Duke of Argyll was drawn to it, but the order having been passed, it must stand, though the heavens fall. The troubles of Suchait are never to end. That they may continue, he is subjected to another similar trick. To shew up the injustice done him, an attempt has been made, by those who wish well of him, to make him a bankrupt. There is a counter-movement, by those interested in suppressing facts, to stifle the enquiry. The too simple Suchait, playing into the hands of those whom he should avoid, resists the action taken in his interest.

The question revived by Sir Roper is not a simple one. Whether it is desirable to have an Imperial Council or not, the Protected Princes certainly require protection from Politicals who make or mar them in the dark. If secrecy has its advantages, the demoralization in its train perhaps outweighs them. The Princes are perfectly helpless. Born in the purple, they have no rights of citizens. They cannot claim the justice that her Majesty's ordinary subjects may have. Whatever their position under the paramountcy of the British Power in India, the ruling princes contribute largely to the Imperialism of the Empire and deserve better treatment.

There was a discussion on the paper after it was read. We will conclude this notice of the lecture by reproducing the closing words of the Chairman of the meeting:—

"Ladies and Gentlemen,—I must first disclaim the character which has been assigned to me by my friends, Sir Roper Lethbridge and Sir Owen Burne. Of the many manners in which I have had the honour [illegible] ere was none

which interested me so much as the India Office when I was there and I am glad to have the testimony of the various gentlemen to the able character of my friend, Lord Lytton. So far as I am concerned, I can safely say I do not recall any occasion on which I differed from the conclusions arrived at by Lord Lytton. His mind was very much occupied in bringing out the higher class in India, both in rule and in intelligence. For the Government of India, his desire was that there should be intimate relations between the Princes and the Paramount Power and to bring into harmonious action those two powers. The progress going on in India is not only in civilization, but in the knowledge and science of the West.

I know that this meeting is important, because it has given expression to that which is in the minds of men at present; that is, not union by violence but union by harmony of thought. In India there is beginning to be that Imperial interchange of strength and Sir Lepel Griffin mentioned the case of one young ruler who is in thorough sympathy with the Government and determined to help them by every means in his power.

The analogy of Germany requires some reconsideration. Germany was brought together not as a congeries of nations, but as one nation. There is almost as great a difference in India between the different nations as between Europeans and Asiatics; and the German system therefore, could not be applied to India at all. Germans were brought together because they were one in kindred, language and thought; there might be some differences among them as to religion, etc.; but they were all Germans. When you come to India you find something quite different and I have continually said myself that this Imperial Council may be compared to the Privy Council. The Privy Council in England is largely an honorary distinction. When they are brought into Her Majesty's presence, they may be said to be Privy Councillors, but there are a great number of outside Councillors who are never called upon for their counsel. So it may be with regard to these Indian Councillors.

I wish every honour to be done to the Native Princes of India and I wish them to rule in their States beneficently, but I should have a long time to wait before I succeeded in combining the great and small in one united scheme in which they allowed others to legislate for their States. These things are matters of growth and cannot be forced. You have brought the English mind to take a deeper interest in India than it ever did before and I am delighted when I see these things discussed by men who know something about them. This discussion has been carried on with a view to the advantage of the Indian Princes. The growth is silently going on. People in this country think that India is one homogeneous, united nation. The English power has grown up against the will of England in one sense, because it never contemplated the growth which has been thrust upon it. It was done by means of pressure applied to an unwilling Government. The trading corporation has now given way to the Government of England itself and it is essential that England should remain the Paramount Power and it is our interest to combine those who are in immediate connexion with England with those who are in immediate connexion with India. I hope this question will be fully discussed; but I do not believe that the man is yet born who has the wisdom or the power to lay down a Constitution for India. Britain is awaking to a sense of her responsibilities towards India and India may safely rely upon that. It cannot be too much a subject for discussion in England, to see how we can bring about a closer union."

MOORSHIDABAD

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

Moorshidabad October 22, 1895.

Mr. G. E. Manisty, C.S., once our energetic District officer and now Comptroller General of India, was amidst us with his family, staying at the Palace as the guest of His Highness the Nawab Bahadur of Moorshidabad, G.C.I.E. He paid a return visit to our respected townsman Nawab Syed Mahomed Zamulabdin Khan Bahadur, Feroze Jung, at his residence where Mr. and Mrs. Manisty were entertained to telescopic views of the fixed stars. They were much pleased with the drawings of the Nawab's elder grandson Syed Rais Meerza, a pupil of the 3rd class, local Medresah. The Nawab possesses a large and beautiful telescope with the object glass measuring 6 inches in diameter, next in size to the one at the St. Xavier's College observatory. He has just brought out from England a first class microscope. He has also a number of other scientific instruments and a capital library of Arabic, Persian and Urdu books. He is President of the Technical School Committee at Lalbagh, and of the Tombs Committee of the Nizamut, which is a very extensive department. He has been an Honorary Magistrate of the Lalbagh Independent Bench for about 20 years; and since the last two years he has been sitting singly exercising and class powers. He is a hereditary Nawab and is next in rank to the Nawab Bahadur of Moorshidabad.

Princes Asif Qudr Syed Wasif Ali Meerza and Iskunder Qudr Syed Naseer Ali Meerza, sons of His Highness the Nawab Bahadur, arrived at Bombay on Sunday, the 20th instant, and were received by a number of Mahomedan, European and Parsi gentlemen of Bombay, including Prince Syed [illegible] Ali Meerza, eldest boy of the late Prince Khurshid Qudr Syed Iskunder Ali Meerza. They are staying at Parel Road, with their grandmother, Her Highness Nawab Shums Jahan Begum Sahiba widow of the late Nawab Nazim of Bengal. They leave Bombay on Thursday and arrive at the Azimgunge terminus on Sunday the [illegible] current by a special train from Nalhati. To welcome them there will be grand demonstrations by the residents. Triumphal arches have already been erected in several places. The princes return home after 9 years' continued stay in England. Nawab Syed Mahomed Zamulabdin Khan Bahadur Feroze Jung and Nawab Wala Qudr Hossain Ali Meerza Bahadur with other members and friends and admirers of the Nizamut family, proceed as far as Nalhati to receive the princes. His Highness Amir-ul Omra the Nawab Bahadur receives them at Azimgunge. Rs. 2,000 will be distributed to the poor to mark the return of the princes.

The health of the town is not satisfactory.

"AN INDIAN JOURNALIST."

(From the *Muhammadan*, October 5, 1895.)

The late Dr. Sambhu C. Mookerjee, Editor of *Reis and Rayyet*, who died in Calcutta in February 1894, was a man who did good work during his time. He has been fortunate in having a friendly biographer to tell the story of his life and to preserve his letters and correspondence. The career of "An Indian Journalist" as described by F. H. Skrine of the Indian Civil Service is exceedingly interesting. The work has apparently been a labour of love to the author, who feels almost a sort of affection for those qualities of kindness, generosity, and independence of character which distinguished Mookerjee and made him beloved of all those who were intimately acquainted with him. Besides being possessed of more of the milk of human kindness than ordinary mortals, he owned abilities of no mean order which gained him the respect of some of the highest officials and the friendship of many eminent men. In his dedication of the work to Sir W. W. Hunter, Mr. Skrine says that Mookerjee was an instance of a Bengali with "backbone," and it was this backbone added to a love of justice and fairplay and a disregard for the conventionalities of society, which in his case should have been all the more harassing as he came from a Brahmin stock of "the bluest of the blue," which gives a charm to the pages of Mr. Skrine, and creates a sympathy in the reader with the struggles, the aspirations and the literary work of this gifted Bengali. What we admire in him most is his earnestness coupled with his disregard of custom that fell foul of convenience. He was a Bohemian at heart and hence the irresistable fascination that journalism had for him from a very early age. It was his first love and he remained true to it up to the very end. If he had been more ambitious, more careful of the ways of the world, more eager to seek the attention of the wealthy and the influential, he would certainly have been more honoured and more rewarded. But it is this absence of the desire of appearing great and distinguished which adds to the intrinsic value of the man and makes us entertain a greater respect for his undoubted talents. He took to journalism because he loved it and he adhered to it throughout his life with occasional breaks. Though he played many parts in his life he did not play them long enough to earn distinction in any of them, and his fame must rest upon his work as a journalist. We are glad that he has been saved from that oblivion which is the common lot of most journalists. Mr. Skrine fully recognises this fact and he deserves the thanks of all the labourers in a field whose labour is not well

DEAFNESS.—An essay describing a really genuine Cure for Deafness, Singing in Ears, &c., no matter how severe or long-standing, will be sent post free.—Artificial Ear-drums and similar appliances entirely superseded. Address THOMAS KEMPE, VICTORIA CHAMBERS, 19, SOUTHAMPTON BUILDINGS, HOLBORN, LONDON.

remembered, in having rescued one of the most deserving of their number from being altogether forgotten.

There is also a particular interest in the life of Dr. Mookerjee which lends additional value to the account given by Mr Skrine. Mookerjee came upon the scene at a very important period in the history of Bengal. Born in 1839, he was about eighteen years of age when the great mutiny broke out. The people in this country were just awakening under the British administration to a higher estimation of their own rights. The work of education had just been taken in hand, and the ambition of many young men in Bengal were roused to do something worthy of themselves and of their land. The time was teeming with the promise of progress, and those who were willing had the opportunity given them of rendering valuable service to the State. The caste and social customs of the Hindu were coming in contact with the methods and practices of a people so different from their own. Men's minds were made up for change but what that change would be could not exactly be defined. Mookerjee, who, as we are told, was descended from fifty generations of high priests had all the traditions of caste clinging to him but he had an exceedingly liberal mind and was one of the first to admit whatever good there might be found in European measures of civilisation. Though at the age of thirteen he published a pamphlet for the special advice of the people of England on the great mutiny, and though he expressed the opinion that that mutiny was brought about by [illegible] in the British administration, he still was never slow in admitting, to give full credit to such reforms as were introduced by the ruling power. His honesty and his fearlessness in this respect makes his character all the more noble as his position was one of great difficulty. But if his position had been less encumbered, he would not, perhaps, be entitled to such a high place for independence of character which he has earned and which can be read in many of his letters.

His simplicity was also great and his love of humanity was most noteworthy. In reading his life, we are reminded much of another man of letters, poor Oliver Goldsmith, who tried his hand at many professions but who had to remain a bookseller's hack to the end of his days. We notice the same intention of doing good and being frustrated. The same love of the good things of the world. The same kindness towards his fellow men as well as towards the lower animals. The same desire for literary fame and nearly the same misfortune in obtaining it. We believe what Mr. Skrine says, that Mookerjee had "the divine spark in him." He possessed the [illegible] ideal beauty. He admired nobility wherever he found it. Though we see no pieces of poetry by him in the papers before us, it is possible that he wooed the unkind muses in his more dull hours.

His letters are marvels of pure diction which is heightened by his scrupulous care, and the proof of the busy life he led and the esteem in which he was held by many is that they should have been addressed by such men as H. E. Lord Dufferin, Sir Lepel Griffin, Sir W. Hunter, Major Evans Bell, the late Sir Salar Jung and many other nobles with whom he kept up a correspondence during his life, though he was seized by a disturbing complaint at a very early age, and which certainly interfered with the [illegible] work.

The life has been written by Mr. Skrine in a very pleasant manner and [illegible] could not only with Bengalis but with all those who appreciate merit unmarred by ostentation and [illegible] by harshness. The book should occupy a honoured place in the library of *Reis and Rayyet* where the illustrious dead [illegible] laboured and laboured with great effect. The book may be obtained at Messrs. Thacker, Spink & Co., Calcutta.

(From the *Bee*, October 12, 1895.)

The Arg[illegible] of the month in our humble opinion, [illegible] Indian Journalist being the Life, Letters, [illegible] Dr. Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee, late [illegible] Calcutta," by F. H. Skrine, I.C.S. [illegible] Although we have only been able to [illegible] through the four hundred and seventy-[illegible] gold volume, we feel assured [illegible] one, which deserves to be read [illegible] Honest and outspoken to a degree, [illegible] Dr. S[illegible] M[illegible] a prince among journalists, and [illegible] man in a [illegible] The [illegible] interspersed through the work are both [illegible] of [illegible] value, while the name of the author will [illegible] the excellence of the biography. The latter, however, [illegible] a very arduous labour of love, for it is stated [illegible] to go to the family of Dr. Mookerjee. It is [illegible] be hoped that the book in question will [illegible] men of all communities in India, and [illegible] soon be a call for a second edition, which, [illegible] not a frequent occurrence in this country [illegible] hoped that the work has not been more widely [illegible] Press than it appears to have been up to this. A collotype portrait of Dr. Mookerjee embellishes the work.

(From the *Englishman*, October 15, 1895.)

WHETHER the life of the late Dr. Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee would prove interesting, as Mr. Skrine says it would, no matter how indifferently written, is not, perhaps, a practical question. The work* before us leaves nothing to be desired either in the way of completeness, impartiality, or lifelike portrayal of character. The late editor of *Reis and Rayyet* came, we learn, of the purest Brahmin stock, being thirty fourth in descent from Sutharsi, the reputed author of the last Indian epic *Nisaak Charita*. He inherited his literary gifts, therefore, through five centuries. "I must be admitted," writes his biographer, "that the pursuits of Sambhu Chunder's immediate progenitors were hardly favourable to the concentration of literary energy. Stern necessity had degraded them from the altar to the shop. His father, Mothur Mohun Mookerjee, far from posing as a visible manifestation of divinity, supported himself as a manufacturer and trader in the Calcutta bazaar." Mr. Skrine follows Mookerjee through all the vagaries and struggles of his early life. He was, it appears, an only son, and therefore spoiled. After a short spell at the local Missionary school his father removed him through fear of his conversion to Christianity, and placed him at the Oriental Seminary at Garanhatta, where he speedily distinguished himself. He became an enthusiastic student, joining the Calcutta Public Library. "But," says Mr. Skrine, "the spectacle of a lad in his early teens reading with solemn elders had its ludicrous side. In order to escape the mild 'chaff' lavished on him, he pored over his English classics while seated outside the Library in a pony carriage his father had provided to take him to school."

While at the Hindu Metropolitan College he started a periodical called the *Calcutta Monthly Magazine*, which soon came to grief. Then he became for a short time editor of the *Morning Chronicle*, but a difference in political opinion between the editor and proprietor led to his resignation. He employed his enforced leisure in the composition of a pamphlet on the Mutiny, which created considerable sensation at home, and was generally voted too good to have been written by a Native. A short time previously, at the age of eighteen, he had married a member of the Boral family of Jorasanko. The union was a happy one. In a short time Mookerjee became attached to the staff of the *Hindu Patriot*, and became, as Mr. Skrine justly says, "one of a little knot of brilliant youths who held the banner of Indian journalism higher than any of their successors have done." For two years he worked for this journal, and then deserted it for a short time to study law, but soon returned to his more congenial occupation, which he continued at for another three years. Subsequently he became Secretary to the Talukdars' Association of Oudh, and editor of the *Samachar Hindustani*, the organ of the Association. Then he was appointed Dewan to the Nazim at Murshidabad, but was soon driven from the Nazim's Court by the intrigues which prevailed there. A third spell at *Hindoo Patriotism* was followed by an attempt at what Carlyle would call "schools mastering," but like that great man he found that teaching was not in his line. Subsequently he became Secretary to Raja Sheoraj Singh of Kashipur, and Minister to the Raja of Hill Tippera. Finally in 1882 he started his life work in *Reis and Rayyet*, which he edited with vigour and success until his death from pneumonia in 1894.

We have briefly outlined Mookerjee's career from the material which Mr. Skrine has in his valuable work placed at our disposal, but it would be unjust to that work to judge of it from this epitome. Mr. Skrine deals with his interesting subject with the unfailing instinct of the biographer. Every side of Dr. Mookerjee's complex character is treated with sympathy tempered by discrimination. It would have been impossible, for example, for his biographer to hit upon a better method of bringing out the perpetual struggle which was going on between prejudice and liberalism in the mind of the enlightened Brahmin than by means of the instance mentioned in the following passage

"His inherited prejudices were continually at war with these liberal impulses which were the growth of a life-long devotion to letters. Thus he was always ready to welcome those of his countrymen who had outraged unenlightened public opinion by crossing the seas, and he once advised a friend, who consulted him as to the readiest method of gaining notoriety, to visit Europe and take his wife with him. But after receiving a visit from one of the 'England returned' he always ordered the *bookahs* used during the call to be emptied and cleaned, and everything polluted by his touch to be destroyed. In this struggle between inbred conviction and acquired culture the latter was, on the whole, victorious."

Mr. Skrine's narrative certainly impresses one with the indi-

* "An Indian Journalist": being the Life, Letters, and Correspondence of Dr. Sambhu C. Mookerjee, By F. H. Skrine, I.C.S. Calcutta, Messrs. Thacker, Spink and Co., 1895.

viduality of a remarkable man. To Mookerjee's amiable qualities his biographer bears eloquent testimony, which is supplemented by that of numerous correspondents whose letters appear in the subsequent part of the volume. His own letters show that he had not only acquired a command of clear and flexible English, but that he had also assimilated that sturdy independence of thought and character which is supposed to be a peculiar possession of natives of Great Britain. His reading and the store of his general information appear to have been, considering his opportunities, little less than marvellous. Mookerjee's correspondence has evidently been well sifted, and the letters given in Mr Skrine's volume are so admirably selected that the omission of any one of them would be a distinct loss. The long list of his correspondents included, among others, Lord Dufferin, Lord Rosebery, Sir William Hunter, Sir Auckland Colvin, Sir Lepel Griffin, Sir Donald Wallace, Sir Griffith Evans, Professor Vambery, Colonel Sir J. C. Ardagh, Dr Mitra, Mr G. Venkata Appa Rao, and Mr G. Seamatt Row. The last two were budding poets. One of the epistles to the last named is a fine specimen of destructive criticism :-

"But how came you to write such stuff as the opening lines of your heroic couplets?

'All hail to you, my country's faithful friends,

From Britain's isle, on which our ideal depends,

And where you worked so well for Bharat land,

That we can sure achieve a success grand!'

'The very punctuation, carefully as you have in obedience to metrical necessity, punctuated the passage, is faulty. There is not, in an opening salutation, a single mark of admiration either at the beginning, in the middle, or at the end. The grammar is not better in other respects. What does 'And' connect? It is a mere stop-gap. 'Can' ought to be 'might.' There is no end to the filling-in process. What a succession of pleonasms in 'Britain's isle' and 'Bharat-land!' Say you that it is Bharat -and not Bhárat? Does that mend the matter? Do we ordinarily say-- Johnson land or Goldsmith land? Why not say at once *Bharat's land*. Of course, without special warning most readers will read 'Bharat land' as if it were *Bharat lma*. The crowning blunder is in the rhyme of the last line. Are our brethren in the South accustomed to pronounce the penultimate word as *success*? or how came the *Hemistich* admit such a verse?"

Very interesting, too, are the letters which Dr Mookerjee received from his numerous correspondents. Sir Auckland Colvin writes from Naini Tal in 1888 respecting a recent contribution of Mr George Curzon to the *Nineteenth Century*. It will be remembered that Sir Auckland was Mr Curzon's bitterest opponent in the recent Council controversy. In a still more delightful letter Sir Auckland says that he was born, like Dr Mookerjee, to write, and that it was only by cursed spite that he went astray into practical administration. A letter from Lord Dufferin after he had left India deserves to be reproduced :-

"British Embassy, Rome, May 16, 1890.

"My dear Dr Mookerjee,--I was delighted to get a letter from you, for I am sure you well know that there are very few of my Indian friends towards whom I feel a warmer regard, or for whose character and abilities I have greater respect than I have for yours. I am still a diligent reader of 'Reis and Rayyet' and in that way I have kept myself pretty well informed of everything that has been going on in India since my departure.

"I am, however, very much grieved to learn of your having been so seriously unwell. An attack upon the chest is always a critical matter, and as you are not very robust you must have felt it all the more acutely. Nor does it in the least surprise me that all your friends as well as your readers should have been rendered very anxious about you.

"That Lord Lansdowne should like and appreciate you was certain, and I am sure that your admiration for him will increase as you become better acquainted with him.

"In regard to my own proceedings I have not much to tell you. We are very pleasantly situated at Rome, which is one of the most interesting capitals of Europe, surrounded by all the most agreeable associations both of Art and Literature, and possessing a very charming station and society. In winter I get some fox hunting and in the summer boating, which supply the air and exercise necessary for one's health. Rome, however, was not a good place to come to immediately after I left India, for what is wanted under such circumstances is a bracing climate, which Rome is not. As a consequence I had rather a tiresome though not a really serious illness when I reached London, which was very disappointing, as it prevented me from seeing any of my friends. This summer I am going to spend on the sea coast in Italy, so that it will not be until next year that I shall really get my holiday at home.

"Believe me, my dear Dr. Mookerjee, yours sincerely, Dufferin and Ava."

Curiously enough, the last letter Dr Mookerjee received and which he never lived to acknowledge, was from Lord Lansdowne, who was leaving India. It is as follows:

"Dear Dr. Mookerjee,--Your kind letter reached me just as I was leaving, and I was obliged to write my answer on board the steamer.

* * *

"I retain a very agreeable recollection of my intercourse with you during the past five years.

"You will receive a copy of my photograph from Colonel Ardagh. With best wishes,

"Believe me, dear Dr Mookerjee, Yours faithfully,--Lansdowne."

One of the first to express his condolence with the family of the deceased writer was the present Viceroy, Lord Elgin. Mookerjee appears to have won the affection not only of the dignitaries with whom he came in contact, but also of those in low estate. He had his failings, no doubt, but, as was becoming, these are not emphasised in the present work. The impression left upon the mind upon laying down the book is that of a good and able man whose career has been graphically portrayed.

(From the *Times of India*, September 30, 1895.)

It is not that amid the pressure of harassing official duties an English Civilian can find either time or opportunity to pay so graceful a tribute to the memory of a native personality as Mr. F. H Skrine has done in his biography of the late Dr Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee, the well known Bengal journalist (Calcutta: Thacker, Spink and Co.), nor are there many who are more worthy of being thus honoured than the late Editor of *Reis and Rayyet*. In a dedication of the volume to Sir William Hunter, Mr. Skrine observes that gratitude was among the motives which led him to undertake the biography of his distinguished Bengali friend, but he felt, too, that Mookerjee's was a career which should not be allowed to pass into oblivion. "He came of a race which has undergone persistent vituperation from people forgetful of Burke's aphorism that a nation may not be impeached. The detractors of the Bengalis," he adds, "belong to three classes. The first know nothing of the seventy millions of the Lower Provinces, and have been dazzled by the brilliant sophistries of Macaulay. The second judge Bengalis, as Macaulay did, by the cringing sycophants who dance attendance in official anterooms, or belong to families who, during a century of intercourse with us in the capital, have lost some of their own virtue without acquiring ours." There is without doubt a half truth in this generalisation, and we may at any rate with all agree with Mr Skrine that the story of Mookerjee's life, ... its lights and shadows, is pregnant with lessons for those who desire to know the real India. Like his namesake (perhaps ... Hurish Chunder Mookerjee, and still more ... like that fine exemplar of the cultured Bengali, the late ... Pal of the *Hindoo Patriot*, Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee was endowed with an individuality which did not even ... of ... marked him out as distinct from his fellows. He came of the purest Brahman stock, and the blood of more than thirty generations of high priests ran in his veins ... the ... as he ... His ... progenitors, however were humble enough. Stern necessity had degraded them ... the altar to the shop, and we find his father trading in a small way in the Calcutta bazaar, while his mother was the daughter of a ... Sambhu Chunder was born in 1839, and was an only son, and as such was allowed to do pretty much as he liked, a circumstance which ... for what Mr Skrine calls, with perhaps rather unnecessary ... the waywardness which marred his highest endeavours in after life." His father, a Hindoo of the fine old crusted type, was strongly opposed to his son acquiring much of an education, and looked with ... horror upon the prospect of his learning English ... the ... of the ... to his mind a ... attain ... the ... of his ... from the straight path of ...

* ...

Accident, however, brought about what the old man so dreaded, and his mother ... him ... his wish, young Mookerjee soon distinguished himself ... at a very early age started a periodical called ... *Mukherji's Magazine*, ... had but a brief ... He then ... to have joined the *Morning Chronicle*, a daily paper owned by Mr Lowe ... Moore ... to loggerheads over Lord Dalhousie's policy in Oudh, and the young man ... to leave. He ... devoted his attention ... to writing ... to the *Hindu Intelligencer*. His closest friends at this time were Sooresh Chunder Dutt and Kristodas Pal, who ... translator in the ... Judge's office at Alipur. With the ... Sambhu soon fell in with Hurish Chunder Mookerjee of the *Hindoo Patriot*, and was soon afterwards invited to join the staff. It was in 1857, and the dark cloud of the Mutiny had already settled over the country--a circumstance which, under Dr. Johnson's principle that public woes deter no

him from eating his dinner as usual, did not prevent Mookerjee from taking unto himself a wife. On the *Patriot* our young journalist—he was barely eighteen—soon distinguished himself. He became one of the "little knot of brilliant youths who held the banner of Indian journalism higher than any of their successors have done." A young man of convivial temperament, keen observation, genial humour and great originality, Mookerjee soon became a popular man far outside the coterie of the *Patriot*. Like Walter Savage Landor, he "warmed both hands before the fire of life," but his enjoyment of the good things of the world, Mr Skrine tells us, unhappily laid the foundation of a malady to which he eventually succumbed. [illegible] was bidden to a wedding feast, where "a surfeit of oranges and green cocoanuts brought on an attack of asthama which undoubtedly curtailed his life." Anti-opiumites will be interested to learn that Mookerjee found the only palliative for his malady in the drug which they so vigorously denounce. It was at this period of his career that our journalist, who was nothing if not versatile, threw himself with much ardour into the study of Homœopathy which was then a good deal of a novelty. Mookerjee formed a laboratory and communicated the results of his experiments to the leading homœopaths of Chicago and Philadelphia, through whose good offices he eventually received the degree of M.D.—a somewhat dubious distinction coming from such a source in those days, but one of which he was very proud. From Medicine he turned his attention to Law, and severing his connection with the *Patriot* became an articled clerk with a firm of English attorneys. He was not long in discovering that the profession was unsuited to him, and the sub-editorship of the *Patriot* falling vacant he gladly embraced the opportunity of returning to the work to which he was undoubtedly admirably suited. The arrangement had hardly been entered upon when Hurish Chunder was seized with a serious illness, and so for three years [illegible] was virtually editor of the paper. Then, at the age of thirty-nine, Hurish's founder died, and the *Patriot* fell into the hands of a youthful millionaire, whose extravagant instincts soon [illegible] Mookerjee to seek another sphere of labour. This he found [illegible] Secretaryship of a new Talukdars' Association at Lucknow, in which post it was an important part of his duties to edit a weekly journal in English called the *Samachar Hindustani*, in opposition to a local Anglo-Indian journal edited by a bitter opponent of the Taluqdars. This rival Mookerjee's brilliant talents soon drove from the field altogether, and Mookerjee came still farther into prominence by a series of articles on burning questions of [illegible] which he contributed to the *Patriot*, of which by this time [illegible] had become editor.

[illegible] and restless and allowing his fine genius but too few opportunities of displaying itself, we next find Mookerjee in [illegible] of Political [illegible], and soon afterwards Dewan to [illegible] of Bengal, whose life was made very unpleasant [illegible] intrigues of his predecessor's friends, who nearly succeeded in effecting his ruin on a charge of misappropriating State property. His political career was not a long one, and he was [illegible] to the *Patriot* once more. Almost one of the first [illegible] work he did on his return was an exhaustive but singularly [illegible] review of Sir William Hunter's *Annals of Rural Bengal*, of which Sir William Hunter is once reported to have said that he would rather have been the author of the review than of the book. Whether this is so or not, the review placed Mookerjee at a bound in the foremost rank of men of letters. The ball was then at his feet, [illegible] fatal love of change impelled his genius [illegible] him into the head-mastership of the Calcutta [illegible]. But the "twice boiled cabbage" of the [illegible] less to his taste than the drudgery of an [illegible], although he became "the centre of a [illegible] the flower of the Indian intellect of the [illegible] to fresh woods, and he became Secretary to [illegible] Rajah. A caste matter—the refusal to eat wild boar's [illegible] his engagement, and Mookerjee then [illegible] the Nawab of Rampur, a position [illegible] jealous courtiers again ousted him [illegible] his wife fell dangerously ill, and in the interval [illegible] Mookerjee found time to establish and edit [illegible] which was afterwards merged [illegible] name was so long and honourably [illegible] Prince and Peasant. While still editing [illegible] many brilliant articles to its pages [illegible] warm appreciation of many dis[illegible] in the service [illegible] Mookerjee [illegible] of Hill Tipperah. At length, in 18[illegible] and for this time permanently, [illegible], and here he [illegible] with [illegible] peculiar vein, [illegible] Professor' [illegible]. No weekly paper, Mr [illegible] *Hindoo Patriot*, in its palmiest days [illegible] degree of influence in any way [illegible] attained by *Reis and Rayyet*. "I [illegible] political relations with [illegible] makers of history. Lord Dufferin, amongst others, was his constant correspondent." For twelve years Mookerjee enjoyed the confidence and friendship with many of the best known men of the time in India, among them Sir Auckland Colvin, Sir W. W. Hunter, Major Evans Bell, Sir Salar Jung, Colonel Ardagh, Sir T. Madhava Rao, Dr. (now Sir) W. H. Russell, Colonel Osborn, Mr. Robert Knight, Sir D. M. Wallace, Professor Vambéry, Sir Griffith Evans, Professor Paul Deussen, Sir W. H. Rattigan, and many others. A man of singular broad-mindedness, his inherited prejudices were yet continually at war with the liberal impulses which were the growth of a life-long devotion to letters. His entire life, says his biographer, was a protest against the foolish and suicidal doctrine that there is no excellence of life or thought outside the Hindoo pale. "Mahomedans were to be found amongst his closest friends, and he would frequently expatiate on the contrast between the exquisite courtesy of high-born followers of the Prophet and the thinly disguised barbarism of so many 'educated' Hindoos." His breadth of mental vision led him to profoundly distrust the so-called "National" movement and the "Congress," and all its works he regarded as "premature and inspired by ignorance of mankind." Nor was he any the less uncompromising in his attitude towards the Cow Protection movement, for he was intimately acquainted with "the secret springs which move the wirepullers." A man of large heart and great qualities, his death from pneumonia in the early spring of last year was a distinct and heavy loss to Indian journalism, and it was an admirable idea on Mr. Skrine's part to put his Life and Letters upon record.

A FEW INCHES OF PLAIN ENGLISH.

NOWADAYS men are doing all sorts of wonders by means of electricity, both in mechanics and in chemistry. I see by the papers that they expect to be able to produce real diamonds by it. Perhaps they may; marvels never cease. But we will wait till they do before we crow over that job. Up to this time, anyway, everything that is both valuable and useful is the fruit of hard work. Even diamonds are mostly got out of rocky mines. And, within reasonable limits, it is good for us to have to work. Ten shillings honestly earned is better for a man than twenty in the shape of a legacy.

The best condition of things for any country would be when fair wages could be earned straight along, without loss or deduction for any reason. But in the present aspect of human affairs this is impossible. Whose fault it is we cannot now discuss.

One source of loss, however, is plain enough, and some remedy for it ought to be found. In England and Wales every working man averages ten days of illness per year, making the total loss of wages from this cause about £16,000,000 a year. We are talking of the *average*, you see. But inasmuch as *all* working men are not ill every year, this average does not fairly show the suffering and loss of those who *are* ill. In any given year many will lose no time at all, while others may lose individually from ten days to six months each. No charity, no savings, no income from clubs, &c., can make up for this—even in money alone to say nothing of the pain and the misery.

Alluding to an experience of his in 1888 Mr George Lugdon says, "I had to give up my work." How this came to pass he tells us in a letter dated from his home in White House Road, Stebbing, near Dunmow, August 21, 1893. He had no inherited disease or weakness, so far as he knew, and was always strong and well up to April of that year—1888. Then his strength and energy began to leave him. He felt tired, not as from work, but as from power gone out of him through some bodily failure. He sat down to his meals, but not with his old eagerness and relish. There was a nasty copper-like taste in his mouth, his teeth and tongue were covered with slime, and his throat clogged with a kind of thick phlegm, difficult to "hawk up" and eject.

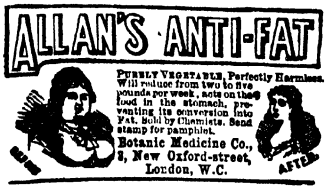
He also speaks of a nagging pain in the stomach, flatulency, and much palpitation of the heart as having been among his symptoms. As the ailment—whatever it was—progressed he began to have a hacking cough which, he says, seemed as if it must shake him to pieces. He could scarcely sleep on account of it. One of the most alarming features of his illness, however, were the night sweats, for the reason that they showed the existence of a source of weakness which must soon, unless arrested, end in total prostration. In fact he was obliged to give up his work altogether. To a man, as to any one active man—this was like being buried alive.

One doctor whom Mr Lugdon consulted said he was consumptive, and it did indeed look that way. "For twelve weeks," he says, "I went on like this, getting weaker and weaker, and having reason to believe that it would end in my taking the one journey from which no traveller returns.

"It was now July—summer time, when life to the healthy is so pleasant and full of hope. At this time my sister-in-law got from Mr Linsel's (Stebbing) a medicine that I had not tried yet. After having used one bottle I felt better, and when I had used the second I was cured, and *have not lost an hour's work since*."

The reader will notice that between the date of his taking this medicine and the date of his letter there is an interval of four years. We may, therefore, infer that his cure was real and permanent. The medicine, by the way, was Mother Seigel's Curative Syrup. It is not likely he will forget its name nor what it did for him. His disease was indigestion and dyspepsia, the deadly enemy of every labouring man or woman under the sun, no matter what they work *at* or work *with*—hands, brains, or both.

Is it necessary to draw a "moral"—school-book style—from these facts? No, it is not. We have talked plain English, and that is enough.



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BY

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A rolling-stone
Introduced to the Nazim
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Baffles his enemies.
Journalism again
Becomes a schoolmaster
A Private Secretary.
A serious dilemma
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"Mookerjee's Magazine"
Duties with the Law
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His application suppressed
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Resigns his post
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A commissioner of partition
Founds "Reis and Rayyet"
"Travels and Voyages in Bengal"
A *terra incognita*
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Breaking up.
A serious illness
The end.
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to Atkinson, the late Mr. E E T, C S
to Banerjee, Babu Jyotish Chunder
from Banerjee, the late Revd. Dr. K M
to Banerjee, Babu Sarodaprasad.
from Bell, the late Major Evans
from Bhaddaur, Chief of
to Bijaya Krishna, Raja.
to Chuni, Rao Bahadur Ananda
to Chatterjee, Mr K M.
from Clarke, Mr S E J
from, to Colvin, Sir Auckland
to, from Dufferin and Ava, the Marquis of
from Evans, the Hon'ble Sir Griffith H P.
to Ganguli, Babu Kisari Mohan.
to Ghose, Babu Nabo Kissen
to Ghosh, Babu Kali Prosanna.
to Gorham, Mr W.
from Griffin, Sir Lepel
from Guha, Babu Saroda Kant
to Hall, Dr Fitz Edward.
from Hume, Mr Allan O.
from Hunter, Sir W. W
to Jenkins, Mr Edward.
to Jung, the late Nawab Sir Salar
to Knight, Mr. Paul.
from Knight, the late Mr Robert
from Lansdowne, the Marquis of
to Law, Kumar Kristodas.
to Lyon, Mr. Percy C
to Mahomed, Moulvi Syed.
to Malik, Mr. H C.
to Marston, Miss Ann.
from Metha, Mr R D.
to Mitra, the late Raja Dr. Rajendralala
to Mookerjee, late Raja Dakhinaranjan
from Mookerjee, Mr. J C
from M'Neil, Professor H (San Francisco)
to, from Murshidabad, the Nawab Bahadoor of
from Nityanatha, Mahamahapadhya M. C
from Osborn, the late Colonel Robert D
to Rao, Mr. G Venkata Appa.
to Rao, the late Sir T Madhava
to Rattigan, Sir William H.
from Rosebery, Earl of
to, from Routledge, Mr. James
from Russell, Sir W H.
to Row, Mr G Syamala.
to Sastri, the Hon'ble A Sashiah
to Sinha, Babu Brahmananda.
from Sircar, Dr. Mahendralal
from Stanley, Lord, of Alderley
from, to Townsend, Mr Meredith.
to Underwood, Captain T O.
to, from Vambéry, Professor Arminius
to Venkataramanarah, Mr G.
to Vizianagram, Maharaja of
to, from Wallace, Sir Donald Mackenzie
to Wood-Mason, the late Professor J.

LETTERS (& TELEGRAMS) OF CONDOLENCE, from
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Ameer Hossein, Hon'ble Nawab Syed
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Banerjee, Babu Manmath nath.
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OPINION ON THE BOOK.

It is a most interesting record of the life of a remarkable man.—Mr. H. Babington Smith, Private Secretary to the Viceroy, 5th October, 1895.

Dr. Mookerjee was well worthy of the distinction accorded, so far as we know, to no other Native journalist in India, of having an English Civilian for his biographer, but the honour is well in keeping with the life of its subject, who for many years enjoyed the personal friendship of distinguished Civilians, of Provincial Governors, and of successive Viceroys. Mr. Skrine has performed his self-imposed task in no patronising manner, but in the spirit of one who while delighting to do honour to a great and good man does not hide his foibles. The subject of the biography was not free from faults, and Mr. Skrine does not attempt to make him appear otherwise.

It should not be forgotten that there are papers and papers and that as much difference exists between some of the rabid Calcutta prints, and the paper which Dr. Mookerjee founded as between darkness and light. *Reis and Rayyet* has always been remarkable for the mingled ability, candour and charitableness of its criticisms, and the periodical has enjoyed a degree of influence approached by no other native weekly. The paper was so well managed by its founder as to attract general notice and bring him into confidential relations with the makers of history.

He was no mere sycophant, and his friendship with men filling the exalted places of the land was due to no self-seeking endeavours to thrust himself upon them but to their own desire to become acquainted with a Native of great originality and personal charm.

Dr. Mookerjee may be placed with the still lamented Justice Telang in the category of those natives of this country who are connecting links between rulers and ruled, and who by their labours, as well as by their personal example and influence, do immense service in welding together the diverse communities of the land in the bonds of Imperial brotherhood and loyalty.—The *Bombay Gazette*, September 28, 1895.

For much of the biographical matter that issues so freely from the press an apology is needed. Had no biography of Dr. Mookerjee, the Editor of *Reis and Rayyet*, appeared, an explanation would have been looked for. A man of his remarkable personality, who was easily first among native Indian journalists, and in many respects occupied a higher plane than they did, and looked at public affairs from a different point of view from theirs, could not be suffered to sink into oblivion without some attempt to perpetuate his memory by the usual expedient of a "life." The difficulties common to all biographers have in this case been increased by special circumstances, not the least of which is that the author belongs to a different race from the subject. It is true that among Englishmen there were many admirers of the learned Doctor, and that he on his side understood the English character as few foreigners understand it. But in spite of this and his remarkable assimilation of English modes of thought and expression, Dr. Mookerjee remained to the last a Brahman of the Brahmans—a conservation of the best of his inheritance that wins nothing but respect and approval. In consequence of this, his ideal biographer would have been one of his own disciples, with the same inherited sympathies, and trained like him in Western learning. If Bengal had produced such another man as Dr. Mookerjee, it was he who should have written his life.

The biography is warmly appreciative without being needlessly laudatory; it gives on the whole a complete picture of the man; and in the book there is not a dull page.

A few of the letters addressed to Dr. Mookerjee are of such minor importance that they might have been omitted with advantage, but not a word of his own letters could have been spared. To say that he writes idiomatic English is to say what is short of the truth. His diction is easy and correct, clear and straightforward, without Oriental luxuriance or striving after effect. Perhaps he is never so charming as when he is laying down the laws of literary form to young aspirants to fame. The letter on page 285, for instance, is a delightful piece of critic-ism; it is delicate plain-speaking, and he accomplishes the difficult feat of telling a would-be poet that his productions are not in the smallest degree poetry, without one may conclude, either offending the youth or repressing his ardour.

For much more that is well worth reading we must refer readers to the volume itself. Intrinsically it is a book worth buying and reading. —The *Pioneer*, Oct. 5, 1895.

The career of "An Indian Journalist" as described by F H. Skrine of the Indian Civil Service is exceedingly interesting.

Mookerjee's letters are marvels of pure diction which is heightened by his nervous style.

The life has been told by Mr. Skrine in a very pleasant manner and which should make it popular not only with Bengalis but with all those who are able to appreciate merit unmarred by ostentation and earnestness unspoiled by harshness.—The *Muhammadan*, Oct. 5, 1895.

The letters interspersed through the work are both instructive and of great value, while the name of the author will vouch for the excellence of the biography.—The *Bee*, Oct. 12, 1895.

The book has a unique interest, being the memoir of a member of the subject race by a member of the ruling body; and as such, it ought to be widely read in every part of India.

Dr. Mookerjee was one of the most talented and accomplished men this country has produced. It is impossible not to admire his bright intellect, his chaste diction, and his keen sense of the humourous; and it is indeed fortunate that the Indian public should have a monograph, exhibiting and setting out his best qualities, from such an accomplished writer as Mr. Skrine.—The *Morning Post of India*, October 15, 1895.

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WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

VOL. XIV. CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 1895 WHOLE NO 697

CONTEMPORARY POETRY.

THE SUNYASSEE.

BY JAMES HUTCHINSON.

(Continued from p. 482)

CANTO SECOND

V.

Our chieftains saw the peril nigh,
And armed them, for the coming fight
  Scindiah and Bhonslah was the cry*
  Of those, who knew the mystery ;
But all, as yet, was veiled in night ;
At last the storm-cloud burst, and then,
They met their enemies, like men,
Who combat, for their country's cause
Their native customs, and their laws.
These might be right, or might be wrong,
  But then no arm should interpose,
If foreign, tho' however strong,
  To bring inglorious repose.
They fought, but fought, alas, in vain,
To free them, from the galling chain,
That coiled around them, like a snake ;
  Vain was the effort, vain the hope,
  As well, might they have tried to cope
With fate,—as Wellesley, or Lake !
They quailed at length, and sued to live,
And found such peace, as conquerors give ;
And yet, had Holkar's arm been joined,
A fairer wreath we might have twined ; †
But mark ! his boat is on the stream,
  His squadrons, in their serried ranks,
  Stand marshalled, on its flooded banks,
Their armour glittering, in the beam !
Why turns he back again ?
A homeless renegade is near,
To pour the poison, in his ear, *
  And India's hopes are vain.

VI

The times were changed, the hour was gone,
Laswaree, and Assaye were done ; †
But tameless was his heart, and now,
With army, worthy of his foe,
A countless host, he stood prepared
To do, whate'er a leader dared ;
  But now he stood alone !
  A soldier, and a soldier's friend,
His was an open heart, and hand,
And frame, to head such hardy band,
  And featly could he tend
Each noble sport,—could rein a steed,
And o'er his saddle, crouch, and bend,
  And wheel, with lance in rest ;
Or charge, where wavering foemen bleed,
As hundred fields might well attest,
If Poonah's fight were yet forgot,
Or Oogein's rout remembered not ; ‡

* The name of Scindiah must be familiar to every one, at all acquainted with the affairs of the East, as that of a powerful, independent, native prince. He is the head of the Gwalior Government, and may be said to have been in a state of ceaseless warfare with the British Government, during the Marquess of Wellesley's administration. Bhonslah, pronounced Bhoosiah, is the family name of the Rajahs of Nagpore or Berar. The then Rajah of Berar was in alliance with Scindiah, when their conjoint armies were defeated at the battle of Assaye.

† The name of Jeswunt Row Holkar is, no doubt, familiar to every one acquainted with the History of British India, about the commencement of the present century. He was the head of the Holkar state, the capital of which is Indore. His whole life was one of unceasing activity, marauding, and warfare ; in the latter, with some striking exceptions, he was generally successful, until he encountered the British troops in his last campaigns. His subsequent fate is sketched in the Poem.

* Holkar was invited by Scindiah, and the Rajah of Berar, to join their arms in opposing the English, and had agreed to do so ; he was in the act of crossing the Nurbudda, with the whole of his army for that purpose, when he was dissuaded, by that soldier of fortune Ameer Khan, then a mere adventurer ; to this circumstance the text must be understood to allude.

† When Holkar took the field to oppose the British Government, Scindiah and the Rajah of Berar had both been subdued. The army of Scindiah was disastrously defeated, at Laswaree in the North of Hindoostan, by Lord Lake, on the 1st of November 1803 ; about the same period,—indeed earlier, on the 23rd of September of the same year, the combined armies of Scindiah and the Rajah of Berar were, in like manner, signally defeated in the South of India, in the battle of Assaye, by the Duke of Wellington, then Major-General Wellesley.

‡ On both the occasions alluded to, Holkar displayed great gallantry, particularly at Poonah "His enemies," Sir John Malcolm remarks, "commenced the action, and were successful in forcing a body of his horse to retreat ;—Jeswunt Row, the instant he observed this retrograde movement, sprang upon his horse, and addressing a small party of his men, advised all who did not intend to die or conquer, to save themselves, and return to their wives and children As for me, he exclaimed, I have no intention of surviving this day ; if I do not gain the victory where can I fly to ?" Again.—"At Poonah he led the charge on Scindiah's guns, and being dismounted, and pulled from his horse, by an Artillery officer of great strength, he wrestled with his enemy on foot, till one of his attendants came to his aid, and after slaying his antagonist, remounted him."—The same author proceeds —"The Patans of Ameer Khan, who had been the first to turn their backs, at the commencement of the day, were now the most forward to plunder ; they had reached the skirts of the city, and began the work of pillage and massacre, when Jeswunt Row ordered some of his own guns to play upon them. It was the only order the Patans would have obeyed ; but they did not wholly desist, till a party of them trying to force the safeguards, that were sent to protect the place, Jeswunt Row, wounded as he was, galloped to the spot, and slew two or three of them, with his spear. He, on this occasion, as at Oogein, displayed a remarkable degree of personal energy." —*Malcolm's Central India.*

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I think, I see him yet ;
His swarthy hue, and piercing eye,
As dark, as blackest jet ;
He had but one, and he would say,
In his light hours, all jestingly,
That he must be a princely knave, *
A thought, thou knowest the vulgar have.
He loved the pleasures of the bowl,
Th' impassioned glance of black-eyed maid,
That looks, into the soul,
A thousand things, tongue hath not said,
Though it would gladly tell ;
And yet, no reveller was he,
He knew a soldier's duty well,
And practised what he knew.
In battle field, with peril nigh,
In courtly feat of chivalry,
No bearing was more stern or high ;
Ha when he hurled, in hour of woe,
Defiance, at his English foe,
"He said, his saddle was his throne,
That hosts, in war, should find their graves,—
"Vast realms his armies overrun,
"And whelm, like ocean's waves."
Such was the man, who now arose,
Our stern oppressors to oppose ;
Even such was Holkar, such his guise ;
Perhaps a second, yet, may rise.

VII.

I joined his ranks ; he led the way
Northward, to meet our enemy ;
At last we met ; we stood at bay,
Then turned, and seemed to fly ;
'Twas all a feint,—they followed far ;
But still we seemed to fly the war ;
We reached the Chumbul's stream, and then,
We turned, and drove them home again,
Aye ! chased like frightened deer ;
And many a maiden's cheek, with fear,
Shall blanche, when they shall read, or hear
The horrors of thy stream Bunnas,
Mokundra's or Biana's Pass. †

(To be continued.)

* The people of India, for I believe the idea is not confined to the Hindoos, suppose that a person with any obliquity of vision, or defect of that nature, must be a rogue.

† All of these names indicate localities, in which the British troops encountered great disasters, in their retreat under the Hon'ble Colonel Manson, before the armies of Holkar in 1804.

WEEKLYANA.

THE season of amusements in Calcutta was opened by Professor Richard from New Zealand in the Theatre Royal. The first week of his exhibition of free cure of the cirpple and the blind attracted more than full houses. There was danger from overcrowding and from stormy scenes, the Professor exhibiting a temper unsuited to a healing physician. He has now retired to his private chamber where he practises his trade charging for every treatment except the preliminary consultation. On the boards he has been replaced by Mr. Hudson and his new Surprise Party. The Columbia Rink on the Maidan opens to-day. The Twinning 95 96 Company begin their performances at the Corinthian also from this evening.

***

THEY are preparing to break up camp at Simla. The Viceroy has left and the members of his Council come down by the end of this month. Mr. Ritchie who meant to enjoy his two months' leave on the heights has cancelled it. He returns to Calcutta on the 7th when he resumes office as Chairman of the Corporation.

***

THE notice inviting applications for the post of Vice-Chairmanship of the Calcutta Corporation, which falls vacant from January next, is out. Since the last two months, in anticipation of the advertisement, canvassing has been going on and the Commissioners are either bespoken or committed. Votes at these elections usually go by the number of visits received by the Commissioners from the candidates : the applicant who can make the largest record is almost sure of success. The manner of appointment, besides imparing the usefulness of the office, reduces its dignity. The heartless dissection to which candidates are subjected is another serious impediment to the good and the true offering themselves. The Commissioners must mend their way if they want a worthy and independent man as their Vice-Chairman.

***

SIR Arthur Havelock, the Governor of Ceylon, has left Colombo for England to come out as Governor of Madras in March next. Sir Joseph West Ridgeway from the Isle of Man succeeds him in the Isle of Ravana or the superhuman. It is a lift for Sir Arthur from the Island to the Continent. Sir Joseph continues in the Colonial Service to which he took after his career in India and Ireland.

***

THE Hon'ble D. R. Lyall, I. C. S, after his retirement in March next, sinks into Superintendent of the Kuch Behar State. He has the appointment, carrying a salary of Rs. 2,000 and other perquisites, in his pocket. The present Manager joined the place from a Commissioner ship in the British Service, Mr. Lyall's descent from the Board of Revenue, is lower still. We have the spectacle of a Lieutenant-Governor joining the India Office as a Secretary. We may before long see a British Governor seeking employment in a Native State.

***

MR. C. W. Bolton, on leave, has been Gazetted temporary Additional Commissioner of the Patna Division. Mr. H. A. D. Phillips, Magistrate and Collector of Mongyhr, goes on furlough for one year. Mr. C. R. Marriott, on leave, ceases to be Collector of Customs, Calcutta, and replaces Mr. Phillips at Mongyr, Mr. F. H. B. Skrine being confirmed as Customs Collector, Calcutta.

***

HERE is a simple mode of preparing vapour baths for the mad-dog-bitten. :—

"When a person is bitten by a mad dog he must, for seven successive days, take a vapour bath—'a la Russe,' as it is called—of 57 to 63 degrees. This is the preventive remedy. A vapour bath may be quickly made by putting three or four red-hot bricks in a bucket or tub of water, and let the patient sit over it on a cane bottomed or willow chair, enveloped in a large blanket, for fifteen or twenty minutes. When the disease is declared it only requires one vapour bath, rapidly increasing to 37 centigrade, then slowly to 53 ; and the patient must strictly confine himself to his chamber until the cure is complete"

***

DR. G. W. Leitner writes to the *Times* :—

"SIR,—The writer on 'Indian Affairs' in the *Times* points out the abortive conclusion of our law in deciding the dispute between the Hindu guardians and the worshippers at Buddh's Temple at Buddha Gaya, which has been taken care of by the Hindu Mohunt, for the time being, in whose compound it is practically situated, ever since the disappearance of the Buddhist faith from India proper. In my opinion, that conclusion—namely, of doing nothing,—is the only one to which one could have arrived in justice to the history and real circumstances of the case. For centuries were Buddhist pilgrims protected and even cherished by Hindu priests of the neighbouring monastery, till, first, the archæological survey and then the meddling of Neo-Buddhists of the Theosophical imposture, or amateur writers on Buddhism, brought on European interference, which, however well meant, is ever disastrous to Orientals and to Oriental institutions. Nothing can, for instance, exceed the grotesque absurdity of our archæological restoration, the sticking up of innumerable heads of Buddha, like so many flowerpots, all round the enclosures of the temple, in which boxes of sardines, strips of Manchester goods, and similar offerings of European manufacture attest alike the piety and progress towards civilization of the Buddhistic worshippers. Still no harm happened under the genial supervision of the Hindu Mohunt till the pseudo-Buddhists alluded to interfered, not to protect their so-called co-religionists, but to air their own self-importance.

Christian proselytism also added a cause for further irritation, till at last the Hindu guardian, in a place teeming with instances of religious toleration and good will, seems to have been driven to a self-assertion, if not to a display of anger, which, I believe, was, at the time I knew him, alien to his nature. How intolerable has been the worry inflicted on this personage and how great was his solicitude for members of a rival creed may be inferred from the following, of which I was a witness in 1886 :—

Colonel—was an amateur photographer, as also a great supporter of missions. After visiting the Mount I unfortunately met the colonel, who begged me to use my influence with the Hindu guardian in order to compel a number of Buddhist pilgrims then present to kneel before the sacred Bo tree where Buddha had meditated, instead of the usual musing posture, so that the colonel might photograph

them in an attitude that was really uncongenial to true Buddhists. The Mohunt declined to induce any one to worship in any particular way, and also expressed his disapproval of making it the object of a photograph. Nothing daunted, the colonel forced the poor pilgrims to kneel before the tree, and then triumphantly came back to us with his negative, hoping 'that this photograph would record the last occasion on which these benighted heathens had bowed to stock and stone, and that in future they would bend their knee only to the Lord Jesus.' I need not describe my indignation and the shocked surprise of the Mohunt, but I still consider that this occurrence is typical of the mixture of hypocrisy, love of sensation, and greed (if the colonel was paid for his photograph) that make up nearly every case of European interference with Native customs that I have known within the last 30 years. Formerly things were better in that respect. So saturated was the air at Buddha Gya with toleration to other creeds that the British Commissioner of the district presented a very fine and large bell, or rather metal gong, to the main Hindu temple, on which his name and gift are inscribed. When I, however, was there a Calcutta paper manufacturer visited it, and noticing a portable sculpture of the sun-god Surya asked the Hindu priests whether he might be allowed to carry it away. 'Your lordship is master,' was the polite reply of native resignation and despair in the presence of a member of the ruling race, but it really only meant, 'You have the power to do so, but we object.' Mr G.—took it away, and I found the priests and worshippers in profound grief at the sacrilege.

Fortunately, I had just dug up a very fine carving of Surya in the bed of a river some miles away, and I presented it to the temple, not, of course, to encourage idolatry, but to remove an impression unfriendly to Europeans, and thus, to our Government.

As for the Mohunt wishing to consecrate the statuette of Buddha, or rather to make an entry of its existence in his records, as it were, before allowing it to be put into the temple, this was merely in order to prevent its being made an object of traffic, like so many Buddhist relics at Gaya that are sold at two to four annas each. Looking, therefore, at the disputed question from the standpoint of what will permanently and most efficiently protect the Buddhist temple, I prefer the supervision of the custodian, nearest and always at hand, to the attempt of 'the general secretary' of the so-called Mahabodhi Society, which has so deservedly ended in a *fiasco*, to substitute the irresponsible interference of outsiders—who do not represent real Buddhists at all—for the traditional solicitude of the Mohunt of the shrine."

Very true and wise words these.

***

LORD Rosebery being asked, if he would support any proposals of the present Government for the reform of the House of Lords with a view to strengthening that body, or whether he was not rather in favour of its abolition, replied to his correspondent:—"I have never advocated the abolition of the House of Lords, but have repeatedly stated that it is impossible without a revolution. With regard to any measures of reform of that House which the present Government may introduce, I propose to see them before expressing any opinion upon them."

***

THE other day we gave the names of the six richest men in the world. Who are the six richest women? They are Senora Cousino, Miss Hetty Green, the Baroness Burdett-Coutts, Mme. de Barrios (or more properly speaking, the Marquise de Roda), Miss Mary Garrett, of Baltimore, and Mme. Woleska, the great Russian landowner. Senora Cousino is a South American widow and worth 40,000,000*l.* sterling. She owns vast expanses of land, many cattle ranges, a fleet of eight steamships, silver, copper, and coal mines, railroads, and many houses, besides personal property in the form of splendid jewels, and probably the richest of the lot. The coal mines yield her 17,000*l.* a month. From her silver and copper mines she receives 20,000*l.* Her stock farms, and her ranches yield as much as her mining property. Miss Hetty Green, the richest woman in North America, is the mistress of 10,000,000*l.* The Marquise de Roda is the wife of a Spanish grandee. She is a Guatemalan by birth, and de Barrios, the tyrannous President of the Republic, married her from a convent at the age of fourteen, disposing of the objections of the Mother Superior by locking that lady up. When he was murdered, his widow found herself worth 5,000,000*l.* Miss Mary Garrett's riches are valued at 2,000,000*l.*, which is in stock of the Baltimore, and Ohio Railroad. Mme. Woleska's wealth comes up to the same figure.

***

WE read:—

"An Italian newspaper gives an account of an amusing lawsuit which has taken place lately in a Russian city in which German is the prevailing language. One man sued another (it is the *Daily News* which tells the story) to recover the sum of 50 roubles, the debtor having faithfully promised to return the money on 'St. Henry's Day.' But having failed to do so for a long time, the lender discovered that the Russian Orthodox Church includes no such saint as St. Henry, and the judge before whom the case was tried was much puzzled as to what verdict he should give. Happily the idea occurred to him that, saint or no saint, All Saints' Day included even the most doubtful, so he gave judgment that the 50 roubles should be returned next All Saints' Day."

A clever Judge! But was not the amount immediately payable on account of the impossible date fixed for repayment?

***

THE *Revue des Missions Contemporaines*, a Swiss magazine, tells the following story of a new god worshipped at Daté, on the British Gold Coast.

"Daté is one of the stations of the Basel Mission. The town contains 6,000 inhabitants, of whom nearly one-fourth are Christians. A number of years ago a god took up his abode in a cave near Daté. A kid was given to him every few days, and he was consulted as a wise oracle. All that the worshippers had ever seen was an arm stretched out of the cave to seize the offered kid. One day some of those who came to present the usual sacrifice resolved to see more of the god. When the arm appeared they seized it, and dragged out of the cave a man, a wretched-looking object, his nose eaten away by ulcers, his body covered with sores. The men who had dragged him out were terrified, and fled to the town. No one understood that they had been deceived. The monster was a god, the mightier because so hideous. And they came out to the cave to appease him. Full of wrath at the affront put on him, 'the god' commanded his devotees to destroy their crops and their provisions, promising them to take them back into favour and save them from hunger. The infatuated people did as he commanded; but he then disappeared, and left them to suffer a terrible famine. The god betook himself to a town not far off—Krakya, in German territory. To the people of Krakya he told his tale—of divine wisdom and power, of indignity and of revenge. They believed him, assigned him a cave as a dwelling, and became his worshippers—they and the inhabitants of a wide district round the town. The heathen of Daté, learning what had become of their missing god, earnestly sought by sacrifices and enchantments to bring him back. At last, by the instruction of a girl instigated by the heathen priests, a human sacrifice, a slave bought at a distant market, was offered up to propitiate the offended god. The slave was strangled; then set upright in a trench; earth heaped up round him and over him, and an altar thus constructed. But still the god did not return. The horrid murder leaked out. It came to the ears of the British Governor, who had the altar demolished, and the body exposed, and then the priests concerned in the sacrifice executed. The Christians in the town, who had meanwhile been suffering a good deal of persecution at the hands of their heathen neighbours, breathed freely once more, and the cult of the god Konkom (as the miserable man had called himself) was abolished in Daté. This was in 1887; but up to a few months ago the god was still worshipped in Krakya, and his priest possessed great power. Some crime of which he had been guilty—probably some arrogant deed of revenge—brought him within the reach of German law. Early in the present year he was seized by a company of German soldiers, tried, and shot. The worship of Konkom will not survive this catastrophe."

Why not? It may revive with double force.

***

THE question whether women ought to be allowed to study and practice medicine, has been answered in the negative by Professor Albert of Vienna University.

"The Professor argues that all the works of human society that surround us are the creation of the male sex; that men have never been thoroughly comprehended by women; that the proper sphere of woman is maternity; and that the study of medicine, though perfectly possible to woman, does not repay her the immense pains it costs to master it. For she is, for the most part, physically and psychically incapable of practically pursuing the profession, so that the torture of the many years required to master it is usually thrown away, and goes unrewarded. The *zoon politicon*, the method is being, the animal of culture, is exclusively the male. But the Professor goes on to argue that the qualifications which women undoubtedly possess for dealing with the sick may be utilised in another way. He proposes to make ladies who have received a certain amount of education the regular assistants of physicians and surgeons, in hospitals as well as out of them. For this purpose they should receive instruction in the elements of anatomy, physiology, hygiene, chemistry, and natural science, and this should be followed by theoretical and practical instruction—say, for a couple of terms in surgery, gynæcology, and midwifery. They would then be qualified to be doctors' assistants, and should be distinguished from the present class of but partially instructed midwives and nurses only practically trained, and without any scientific knowledge."

***

IN America, they are discussing the question—What class furnishes the largest proportion of its own members to the ranks of vice? In other words, what occupations seem to most favour this downward tendency. Of twenty-two answers, sixteen say "factory girls," "shop girls," "sales women," "waitresses;" four say "domestic servants;" and two "those too idle to have any occupation." Thus, it is said, it is the women who are engaged in public occupations who are most in danger. Dr. Woods Hutchinson, in a paper on the Economics of Prostitution, read before the American Academy of Medicine at Baltimore, says:

"Again, we have the commercialization of women as a powerful factor in the production of this vice. It is based upon a trade instinct pure and simple. Space does not permit me to enter upon the subject

here, but I wish to record my solemn and sorrowful conviction that the woman who works outside of the home or the school pays a fearful penalty, either physical, mental, or moral, and often all three. She commits a biologic crime against herself and against the community, and woman labor ought to be forbidden for the same reason that child labor is. Any nation that works its women is damned"

***

THE following is going the round of the Indian press :—

"A point of law rather important to Europeans in India was settled in the Chief Court of the Punjab on the 17th instant (Sep.) by M. Justice Frizelle and Mr. Justice Rivaz. It appears that Mr. McGregor, of Simla, was charged before the District Magistrate by the Municipal Committee with disobeying a Municipal order. Mr. McGregor claimed to be tried by a jury, but the District Magistrate disallowed the claim. He proceeded with the trial and sentenced Mr. McGregor to a fine of Rs. 50, and also a further continuing fine of Rs. 680. Accused appealed to the Chief Court through his counsel, Mr. J R E Gouldsbury, and after hearing the argument Justices Frizelle and Rivaz quashed the whole of the proceedings, on the ground that Mr. McGregor, having claimed to be tried by a jury, the District Magistrate could not proceed with the trial except by jury."

The report is not sufficiently full for any comment. We may still remark that the magistrate provoked the appeal by his order of continuing fine. But if every offence under a Municipal Act were to be tried by jury, the Act must be a dead letter to the privileged.

***

AN Italian, named Ansaldi, born blind, recently graduated with high honour from the Florence Istituto de Studi Superiori, the school for post-graduate university work. He had chosen for his thesis "Compensations in the senses of the Blind.' It is an important contribution of new material to psychology.

***

A CHILD with a fondness for its own dirt was cured of the propensity in a month by Veratrum 2.

***

CREMATION is progressing slowly in Christian Europe. The Zurich Cremation Society numbers 1,97 members with funds amounting to 10,200 fr. Last year forty corpses were cremated. The charge for each cremation is 65fr. for persons dying in Zurich, and 95 for others. In Paris, the numbers of cremation were—1889, 49 ; 1890, 121 ; 1891, 134 ; 1892, 159 ; 1893, 189 ; 1894, 216 ; 1895 (four months), 75.

NOTES & LEADERETTES,
OUR OWN NEWS,
&
THE WEEK'S TELEGRAMS IN BRIEF, WITH OCCASIONAL COMMENTS.

THE leading London newspapers attach the greatest gravity to the news from the *Times'* Hongkong correspondent regarding the concessions made to Russia by China, and say that, if the statement is true, Great Britain will be bound to intervene. The English Foreign Office is absolutely without any information on the subject so far. The *Daily Graphic* announces, on what it says high official authority, that the outline of the treaty has no resemblance whatever to the actual facts. The Russian Embassy positively denies the *Times'* telegram regarding the Port Arthur treaty. The *Temps* is convinced that the report published by the *Times* represents the future if not present position of affairs, as it is impossible to suppose that Russia would neglect such a unique occasion for profiting by the condition of China.

UNEASINESS continues to be felt regarding the political situation, more specially in respect to the relations between Great Britain and Russia. The tone of the European Bourses on Thursday was characterized by nervousness. A Russian official communique declares that the political outlook is tranquil, and therefore not calculated to inspire any uneasiness.

A LITTLE cloud appears in the African Continent. The swarthy King of Coomassie is reported to have rejected the British ultimatum, saying that he prefers war, for which he is fully prepared.

DURING the debate, in the French Chamber of Deputies, on the Southern Railway scandals, M. Ribot denied the charges made by the Socialists that the Government was hushing up the affair in order to screen certain Deputies. Nevertheless the motion of M. Rouannet for fresh prosecutions was carried by a majority of 130. The defeat of M. Ribot's Ministry was due to a coalition of the Socialists and Conservatives. The Cabinet thereupon resigned. President Faure accepted the resignation.

IN the treaty concluded between France and Madagascar, the Queen accepts an absolute protectorate under the French. A Resident General has been appointed at Antananarivo, and France will control the foreign relations and internal financial affairs of the country. She also reserves the right to maintain an adequate military force. France, however, assumes no responsibility for anterior treaties or concessions made by the Queen. At the instance of General Duchesne, the Queen has appointed the former Minister of the Interior as Premier. M. Hanotaux, the French Foreign Minister, insists on France upholding the treaty with Madagascar, while several Radical Deputies desire simple annexation. The difference caused delay in the formation of a new Cabinet which has just been formed by Mr. Bourgeois belonging to the Radical party. M. Doumer has accepted the portfolio of the Minister of Finance, and M. Bourgeois takes that of the Interior. The portfolio of Foreign Affairs has not yet been filled. M. Hanotaux, to whom it was offered, declined it, because he objects to the annexation of Madagascar, which is part of the policy of the New Cabinet.

SIR Philip Currie, British Ambassador, had an audience with the Sultan on the 27th October, which lasted an hour, during which his Majesty gave satisfactory assurances that he would faithfully execute the modified reforms in Armenia agreed to by the Powers, and would appoint worthy and competent officials to supervise them.

SERIOUS disturbances, accompanied by bloodshed, have taken place in different parts of Armenia. At Erzingjan alone sixty Armenians lost their lives. The Turks affirm that the Armenians killed the Imam at Erzinghean. Hence arose the slaughter. A German eye-witness states that a brutal murder of a number of Armenians was committed at Trebizonde on the 8th instant. He estimates that six hundred were killed. Russian spectators confirm the German account and state that seven to eight hundred male Armenians were butchered and that the adjoining villages were burned by the troops, aided by the police.

THE Turkish Embassy positively denies the *Standard* correspondent's telegram regarding the summary trial and execution of fifty members of the Liberal party.

SERIOUS fighting between the Mussalmans and the Armenians took place at Bitlis, in Asiatic Turkey, on Friday last week. The Turks assert that the Armenians attacked the mosques. Many were killed and wounded in the encounter. Another telegram says that the Turks have killed 150 Armenians at Baibout in Armenia and have outraged and mutilated a number of women. Many houses were burned. Similar scenes were enacted at Gumushdagh near Trebizond.

ACCORDING to Turkish accounts there are 26,000 insurgent Armenians in the mountains in the Zeitun district.

STILL on the Turk ! Age has not softened Mr. Gladstone's hatred of the Sublime Porte. He sticks to his bag and baggage treatment of the unspeakable. In a letter to Madame Novikoff regarding the Armenian settlement, he says that the wretched Sultan, whom God has given as a curse to mankind, is triumphant, with Russia, France and England at his feet. The letter concludes by expressing a hope that God will send a speedy end to the official Turk and all his doings. If the Almighty can endure the Turk, why not Mr. Gladstone, great though he is ?

LORD Salisbury, speaking at Watfords on October 30, said that he would endeavour, for the sake of continuity, to execute the for-

eign policy of his predecessors. He regretted the utterances of Mr. Gladstone in regard to the Sultan and the Armenian question, which, he said, added to the difficulties of the Powers in their negotiations for reforms. He announced that social amelioration would be the chief home question of the Government in the coming session. The lowering of prices due to free trade has, he said, almost killed agriculture in several countries.

THE Japanese have commenced the evacuation of the Liaotung Peninsula. Eight millions sterling, an instalment of the Chinese war indemnity, was paid to Japan in London yesterday.

ADVICES from North China state that the Mohamedan insurgents have captured Lanchanfu, the capital of Kan-su, and are defeating the Chinese in every direction. The secret societies of Central China have joined the Mohamedans.

THE Emperor of China has conferred the Order of the Double Dragon of the first class on two Russian foreign officials, M. Chichkine and Count Kapniste.

CHINA has granted Germany a Crown concession at Tientsin.

THE *Novoe Vremya* states that the King of Corea has chosen another queen. The King has assumed the title of Emperor, against which the Powers have protested. Miura, the Japanese Minister, has been recalled from Seoul, and arrested on his arrival at Hiroshima.

IT is reported from Teheran that a Russian company has been formed with a capital of two and-a-half million roubles to build a road to connect Teheran with the Caspian Sea, the Russian Government guaranteeing a dividend of five per cent.

THE betrothal of Princess Maud of Wales to Prince Charles, second son of the Crown Prince of Denmark, is announced.

THE Duke of Cambridge has taken his farewell of the Army in an order stating that his connection with it ceases, after 53 years' service, with the deepest sorrow. His Royal Highness rehearses the important changes which have taken place in the Army, and hands his successor a force whereof the Queen and the Empire are justly proud.

LAST Saturday Lord Elgin drove to Fattehpur-Sikri, 24 miles S. W. of Agra. The Viceregal party left Agra at seven in the morning in a barouche and a brake of the Royal Artillery battery drawn by teams of artillery horses which in two hours and half completed the distance. Mr. E. W. Smith, of the Archæological Survey, N.-W. P., author of The Moghul Architecture of Fathpur-Sikri, acted the guide. The city abounds in marvellous monuments of Indian architecture and decorative art, no two buildings being alike in design. The whole day was devoted to the magnificent ruins of Akbar's palace. On Monday there was a parade of the Bikanir camel corps, 440 strong, under the command of Thakur Dip Sing. The corps turned out very well, causing surprise by the smartness of the men, the condition of the camels and the steadiness of their movements. One section of the corps was in marching order, each sowar having a British soldier of the East Surrey Regiment on the back seat of the camel, together with food, ammunition, clothing, water, and every other requisite for both men and camels for five days. It is the only camel corps in India.

In the afternoon Lord Elgin received visits from the Maharaja of Bhadawar, the Raja of Manipuri, the Raja of Awa, the Raja of Tirwar and Sett Luchman Das, the Muttra banker. In the afternoon, the Viceregal party drove out about five miles to Sikendra and the tomb of the Emperor Akbar. Next day, the Fort and the Jail claimed the Viceroy's attention. The day closed with a visit to the Taj in moonlight. On the 31st, the Viceroy arrived at Gwalior and was given a right royal welcome. The young Maharaja, now 19 years of age was present at the railway station to receive Lord Elgin. From the station, they drove to the Guest House where the Viceregal Party took their quarters. Soon after the Maharaja paid the usual ceremonial visit. Yesterday the Viceroy reviewed the Imperial Service Cavalry. In the afternoon Lord Elgin returned the formal visit of the Maharaja at the Jai Bilas Palace.

WHEN the present Home Member takes over charge of the Lieutenant Governorship of Bengal, Mr. J. Woodburn succeeds Sir A Mackenzie in the Viceroy's Council. It was again and again rumoured and contradicted that the present Chief Secretary to the Bengal Government would be sent to the Central Provinces. It now appears that Mr. C. J. Lyall, M. A., LL. D., C. S. I., C. I. E., Secretary to the Government of India in the Home Department, now on furlough, gets the Chief Commissionership of the Central Provinces. Where then shall the Hon'ble H. J. S. Cotton, C. S. I., go? To Assam? Or, where?

A FUND has been opened for perpetuating the memory of Haridas Vithardas Desai, of Nadiad, the late retired Dewan of Junagadh. The deceased was a worthy man and deserves the honour. He was not much known in this Province, but when, in 1893, he came out as a member of the Royal Commission on Opium, he made the best impression. It was with great regret that we heard of his death in June last. Subscriptions are being received by

Vazirsahib Bhavadimbhai Hisambhai, C. I. E., Junagadh.
Divan Bahadur Manibhai Jasbhai, Baroda.
Chunilal Sarabhai, Esq., Ahmedabad
Ranchhodbhai, Udayarama, Esq., Bhuj.
Purushottamaraya. S. Zala, Esq., Junagadh.
Rao Bahadur Motibhai Raghunathji Panda, (of the firm of Panda Gocalji Kismatha.) } Nadiad.
Manasukharama Suryarama Tripathi, Esq., Girgaum, Bombay.
and the Bank of Bombay, Bombay.

The Subscription List for the Haridas Memorial began as follows:

	Rs.
H. H. the Maha Rao of Cutch	1,000
H. H. the Navabsahib of Junagadh	2,000
H. H. the Maharaja Saheb of Idar	500
Vazirsahib Bhavadimbhai, C. I. E., Junagadh ...	1,500
Divan Bahadur Manibhai Jasbhai, Baroda ...	1,000
Rao Bahadur Chunilal Sarabhai, Ahmedabad ...	1,000
Manasukharama S. Tripathi, Esq., Bombay ...	1,000
Purushottamaraya S. Zala, Esq., Junagadh ...	600
Rao Bahadur Motilal Lalbhai, Bhuj	500
Ranchhodbhai Udayarama, Esq., Bhuj	500
Chhotalal Sevakarama, Esq., Bhuj	500
Ratilal Chhotalal, Esq., Bhavnagar	500
A friend	500
Rao Bahadur Motibhai Raghunathji Panda, Nadiad	400
Harilal Damodar, Esq., Bhavnagar	300
Govardhanarama M. Tripathi, Esq., Bombay ...	300
Tanasukharama M. Tripathi, Esq., Bombay ...	250
Dr Motilal Kushalji, Junagadh	250
Bapulal Manekalal, Esq., Bhavnagar	200

BABU Anurup Chandra Mookerjee of Jamai has become the manager of the estate of Babu Gopal Lal Seal, of the Colootolla Seal family.

The Indian Association for the Cultivation of Science.

210, Bow-Bazar Street, Calcutta.

(Session 1895-96.)

Lecture by Dr. D. N. Chatterjee, B.A., M.B., C.M., on Tuesday, the 5th Inst., at 6 to 8 P.M. *Subjects:* Histology—Muscle; Physiology—Alimentation.

Lecture by Babu Ram Chandra Datta, F.C.S., on Wednesday, the 6th Inst., at 4-15 P.M. *Subject:* Classification of the Hydro-Carbons.

Lecture by Babu Ram Chandra Datta, F.C.S., on Friday, the 8th Inst. at 4-15 P.M. *Subject*: Hydrides of the Hydro-Carbons.

Lecture by Dr. Nilratan Sirkar, M.A., M.D., on Friday, the 8th Inst., at 6 to 7 P.M. *Subjects*: Chemical Physiology—Carbo-Hydrates.

Admission Fee, Rs. 4 for Physics, and Rs. 4 for Chemistry; Rs. 6 for both Physics and Chemistry; Rs. 4 for Physiology; Rs. 4 for General Biology; Rs. 6 for complete course of Physiology and Biology. The charge for a single lecture is 4 Annas.

MAHENDRA LAL SIRCAR, M.D.,
Honorary Secretary.

November 2, 1895.

As Superintendent of the Zemindaries of Raja Ranajit Sing of Nashipore, Babu Anurup Chandra achieved success. Unwilling to stand in the way of his advancement, his late employer has parted with him reluctantly. Raja Ranajit is a young man of promise. Already he has made a mark by his judicious liberality, business-like habits, and urbanity of disposition. Babu Gopal Lal makes an acquisition, for his new manager, besides being the scion of a respectable and well-known house, has business experience and familiarity with the details of Zemindari management. We hope Babu Seal will stick to his choice. He is young and may yet make himself a useful member of society. He has good examples in his own family—in his uncle Heralal and grand-father Matilal.

A USEFUL institution is the "Hindu Satkára Samiti." It is a necessity of the time. Its object is to assist Hindu families in the last rites to their dead. In a large town like Calcutta, where next door neighbours do not always know each other, great difficulties are encountered in the removal of corpses to the burning ghat. The bodies cannot be touched by other than castemen. Sometimes delicate ladies may be seen leaving the Zenana and exposing themselves to the public gaze in discharging the duties, at the last moment, of affection and piety to husbands or brothers, mothers or other dear kinsmen or kinswomen. The accomplishment of these demands a large measure of physical endurance. The "Hindu Satkára Samiti" undertakes, on notice, to supply the required number of hands. In the case of the poor who are unable to meet the costs, the "Samiti" finds them from its own funds. The Secretary, Prasanna Kumar Mookerjee, the soul of the institution, is a man of energy. He was formerly a Police officer. During the last epidemic he disposed of a number of dead bodies. Such an institution should not be allowed to die from want of support. The very etymology of the word *Satkára*—pious act—shows that, from a Hindu point of view, assistance freely rendered is highly meritorious. Within the few months of the "Samiti's" existence, Babu Prasanna Kumara has had some strange experiences. The relatives of a poor Hindu, who were unable to find the costs of his cremation, had a proposal made to them by a pious Mussulman that he was willing to stand the expenses of the deceased's disposal provided it was by interment and provided also the deceased was allowed to be sanctified by the *Kalma* according to the Koran. Babu Prasanna Kumar heard of the matter by accident and, instead of burial, cremation took place according to the rites of the Hindu religion. In the appeal the "Samiti" has put forth occurs the well-known Sanskrit verse which says that the thinnest fibres, united together, may bind an elephant in rut, and little drops, by force of number, may fill the largest tank to overflowing. We hope the sense of this ancient saw will not be lost on our countrymen.

THE arrangements made for the Bengal District Road Tramway Company (Howrah-Sheakhalla) limited, are satisfactory. The capital is Rs. 5,40 000, divided into 5,400 shares of Rs. 100 each. A minimum interest of 3½ per cent is guaranteed. The calls have been judiciously distributed Rs 10 to be paid with application, Rs. 20 on allotment, and the balance in three calls of Rs. 30, Rs 20, and Rs. 20 within approximately 3, 6, and 9 months respectively. The Directory is strong, consisting of Sir T. A Martin, Mr. P. F. Hedger, Mr. R. N. Mookerjee, Rai Lalit Mohun Sinha Bahadur, Babu Nandalal Gossain, and Babu Harendra Krishna Mookerjee. The promoters of the scheme, it seems, have paid some attention to our remarks in a former issue about the appointment of directors from among families of local influence and experience. From the estimates prepared, the revenue receipts are expected to be not less than 11½ per cent. on the total capital. The portion of the Hooghly district which the line will tap abounds in all sorts of articles required for the Calcutta market. Writing so far back as 1882, the Commissioner of Burdwan said that "there is no doubt that the central and western portions of the tract lying between the Hooghly and Damooda Rivers is extremely populous and fertile, and that it deserves, and would amply repay, opening up by a Railway." The guage will be 2 feet, and the length for the present will be 20 miles. Starting from Telkalghat at Howrah the line will pass through Bantra, pass along the old Benares Road, make a diversion through Janai, then run to Sheakhalla through some intermediate villages that are well known. There are some jute and paddy marts, and some large and well-supplied vegetable *hats* that will be tapped. There are two important centres of cotton fabrics also, such as Kharsarye and Rajbalhat. The wares of these two places are well known in Calcutta. The passenger traffic also will be respectable. The District Board of Howrah and that of Hooghly have both granted the Company the free use of as much of the Roads within their respective jurisdictions as the line may take up. The Hooghly Board have granted a favourable concession, *viz*, that on five miles of the line being declared open, the Board will pay to the Company, by way of interest on the capital paid up and spent, such a sum of money as may make the net profit equivalent to a dividend at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum. The maximum for which the Board will thus be liable is Rs. 450 per annum per mile. In return the Board will have a third of the profits in excess of 10 per cent. per annum. By far the best inducement to shareholders is that Messrs. Martin and Co., as contractors of the line, will pay during construction 3½ per cent. interest on payments to them.

Four out of the six Directors, it will be noted, are native gentlemen of respectability. The business capacity of Sir T. A. Martin and Mr. Hedger, and their reputation in the commercial world of Calcutta, are a guarantee of success.

THE Coroner's inquest in the Commercial Buildings tragedy was as mysterious as the tragedy itself. It throws no light. At any rate, the morning papers report little or nothing. The verdict of the jury is that W. Collingwood had died at the hands of J. G Pugh, under what circumstances or from what motive there is no evidence to shew, and J. G. Pugh thereafter took his own life.

DEAFNESS COMPLETELY CURED! Any person suffering from Deafness, Noises in the Head, &c., may learn of a new, simple treatment, which is proving very successful in completely curing cases of all kinds. Full particulars, including many unsolicited testimonials and newspaper press notices, will be sent post free on application The system is, without doubt, the most successful ever brought before the public. Address, Aural Specialist, Albany Buildings, 39, Victoria Street, Westminster, London, S. W.

REIS & RAYYET.

Saturday, November 2, 1895.

PROSECUTIONS FOR OBSCENITY.

THE recent prosecution of a Hindu physician in the Calcutta Police Court for what was considered improper advertisements, has, as we have already reported, ended in the withdrawal of the complaint, the accused undertaking to modify or suppress the objectionable passages. He had translated literally into English some verses from ancient Hindu medical works of accepted authority. The translations appeared in a catalogue of medicines named and prepared according to directions in such treatises as fall within that branch of Sanskrit literature which is somewhat loosely styled "Ayurveda." The catalogue not only names the medicines but indicates their virtues, describing the diseases in which they are prescribable. In the préface, the Kaviraj says, "In mentioning the medicines, great care has been taken to describe the diseases in which they are administered. The peculiar feature of this catalogue consists in the description of those diseases. In many cases the language has been reproduced of the medical Rishis of India. This catalogue is not, therefore, a mere trade publication. It will repay perusal. It is practically a small treatise on disease and medicine for domestic reference."

No objection has ever been taken to the publication of the original works on Hindu medicine. In fact, those works have been repeatedly published both at Calcutta and Bombay. So long as the Hindu

system of cure continues to be professed and practised, those works will certainly be read and followed. Even if it perishes outright, notwithstanding the many visible signs of a revival, in its competion with the Western mode of cure, the medical literature of mediæval India, that is exceedingly voluminous, may not yet die. To the historian of medicine and medical science, that literature will never fail to be of interest. Whether the Greeks derived their medical lore from India or not, resemblances occur between the Greek and the Hindu medical systems that are certainly striking. The history of medicine has yet to be written, and when written, the connection between Greek and Hindu medicine will form a very important chapter. To stop the publication of Hindu medical books, so long as they have readers and so long as the history of medicine, showing its gradual development, has an interest for mankind, cannot but be an unmitigated evil. No medical literature can be free from things that are unmistakably prurient or obscene to the general reader. Yet it is not only tolerated but also carefully studied for the sake of its scientific value. Humanity is subject to ugly diseases. Writers on medical science cannot pass them over for fear of offending the modest. A professedly medical catalogue, which mentions the drugs in use among the profession, can no more omit the remedies than a professed work on pathology ignore the diseases. So long, therefore, as man is obliged to bear with those maladies, he must bear with their descriptions also in language.

In judging of the pruriency of a publication, there is one important consideration that should not be forgotten. That consideration is connected with the place where the objectionable matter occurs. Dirt is matter in the wrong place. Every dictionary contains words and definitions that are not only disgusting but absolutely obscene. The only cyclopædia of Sanskrit lore, the *Sabdakalpadruma*, contains extracts from Rishi literature that are sickening. Nobody, however, whatever the measure of his prudery, can call for the suppression of works like these. We have seen, again,* that works treating of pathology or therapeutics, or surgery or obstetrics, or such as are distantly connected with these branches of knowledge, cannot be objected to for matter that may, from a general point of view, be regarded as indecent. The same consideration applies to medical catalogues. Their object is to inform suffering humanity of the remedies recommended in recognized treatises They are intended to inform and not excite pleasure as in imaginative literature.

We must not be supposed to advocate the cause of obscenity. We make general observations irrespective of any particular case There can be no possible objection to the suppression of such advertisements, for example, as do not come from regular professional men having a reputation to lose but are paraded by quacks offering nostrums to men wedded to sensuality but desirous of baffling its inevitable consequences. The law should reserve its rigour for these. It is very much to be regretted that most of the vernacular papers, week after week, come out with much filth. Here is a field for the Police to shew its activity and set the public morals right. The public theatres are under a censorship, but when will the authorities begin to examine the advertisement columns of the daily and the weekly press which are not often guardedly worded?

Wide as the subject is of pruriency in literature, we cannot close our remarks without some reference to the ancient or sacred literature of India. That literature, judged by modern canons, must be held as containing much that is undoubtedly filthy. There are passages in the two great epics that cannot be read in the class room or a family circle. Many of the poems of mediæval India, again, contain passages of pronounced pruriency. For all that, nobody can demand the suppression of those grand works of genius. The language being obsolete, they can be read by only the learned few. For this reason their suppression is undesirable. Then, again, as works of art, they are immortal for their grandeur and beauty. The palace of marble that the Danava architect built for the heroic sons of Pandu has passed away. The very site of that wonderful monument of engineering is unknown. The glowing description, however, which the genius of Vyasa has left of that structure is still as fresh as ever, and thousands read it with pleasure and profit to this day. For the sake of that pleasure and profit which every page of the book affords, every one ought to put up with it occasional blemishes.

These remarks apply with equal force to the ancient and sacred literature of other countries. Examine them in even the translations of modern scholars; their deformity is equally apparent. The historical or antiquarian as also the artistic value, that attaches to them, should prevent their suppression or even mutilation. The sensible portion of the world is agreed that the mischief that may be expected from them is very little, compared with their general utility. Some of the universities of Europe at one time insisted upon what were called "expurgated editions." Fearing, however, to mangle outright those great works of genius, the expurgators sometimes placed the objectionable passages together in the appendix. The folly of the course became soon manifest Byron has immortalised it in one of his scathing stanzas. The world, as a matter of fact, has not become a whit worse for permitting the works of Horace to appear in the form that he gave them. The classical myths have done more good to mankind by their general merits than mischief by their lusciousness. As regards modern literature, even Swinburne and Zola have not only been tolerated but come to be respected for their genius.

Another point is the difficulty of deciding what really constitutes obscenity to be put down. The celebrated case of *Stockdale* vs. *Hansard* may be referred to in illustration. A Parliamentary committee had pronounced one of Stockdale's publications obscene, deriding, in cutting language, its pretensions to be considered as a medical work. The report they submitted was published by Hansard, the authorised publisher of both Houses. Stockdale sued Hansard. Experts were examined. Most of them deposed to the scientific character of the publication. The verdict of the Parliamentary committee was upset. The jury held that Stockdale's publication was not obscene, and the judge, Lord Denman, agreeing, heavy damages were awarded against Hansard The case is not more famous for the dispute to which it led between the judicature and the lower House of Parliament than for the reversal, by a competent jury, upon the evidence of experts, of the opinion of a committee of the Commons. This feature of the case is somewhat clouded by the

gravity of the other issues that arose out of it. Nothing, however, is more certain than that prosecutions for obscenity in literature or art should not be hastily commenced. Art, again, has especial canons. Many statues and pictures, condemned in haste or ignorance as objectionable, have been saved for the admiring world by the common sense of juries acting on the evidence of experts.

In India there ought to be a regular department for instituting prosecutions for obscenity. No Police Commissioner, however able, unless properly assisted, can form a correct opinion. The opinions of experts should be called for before the aid of the law is invoked. Convictions by Magistrates upheld by Sessions Judges have been set aside by the High Courts. A public prosecution is a grave evil to the victim. A verdict of acquittal may mean financial ruin to the acquitted. Then, again, haphazard prosecutions terminating in the triumph of the accused, cause much mischief in other directions. Considering how narrow is the line that separates the obscene from the unobjectionable, such trials should never be held without the aid of juries. The fate of Vidyasagar or Pandit Tarkavachaspati, in the Court of an Indian Magistrate, would have been uncertain in a prosecution based upon the publication of *Kumara Sambhava* or Birth of the War God, which is universally recognised as one of the best fruits of Kalidasa's genius.

THE OCHTERLONY COLUMN.

CALCUTTA'S PRINCIPAL LANDMARK.

A well-known London merchant once assured me that he had passed St. Paul's Cathedral at least twice daily for forty-two years, and never seen the interior of that august pile. Clearly public buildings resemble prophets in receiving scanty appreciation in their native place. If a hundred denizens of the Ditch were asked what they considered to be the most conspicuous object within that imaginary enclosure, ninety-nine would probably answer "the Ochterlony Column," but the percentage able to give a connected account of its history would be very much smaller. The present moment, when it is receiving a much-needed coat of colour, is an opportune one for recalling to the public memory the vicissitudes that attended its construction.

Sir David Ochterlony deserved better of his country than many who have been honoured with even more pretentious monument. He belonged to a race which has had a very large share in the task of laying the foundations of the Empire. Though born at Boston, then the capital of an English colony, he came of a Forfarshire family. Arriving in India as a cadet in the Company's army in 1776, he climbed to the rank of Colonel after twenty-seven years' service. In 1804 he defended Delhi against the force of Holkar, but his opportunity for gaining supreme distinction did not come till 1814, when the aggressions of the Nepalese drove the Marquis of Hastings into a declaration of war. Sir David was appointed to the command of an Army which invaded the Western portion of the long strip of Terai, and he stormed one hill fort after another and compelled the arrogant Gurkhas to sue for peace. A draft treaty was presented to the Durbar: but with characteristic duplicity, the Maharaja delayed executing it, and strove hard the while to augment his forces. The Governor General was not to be trifled with. During the Waterloo year 33,000 men were poured into Napal from Tirhut. They penetrated to a spot within easy striking distance of Katmandu, and the Maharaja "climbed down." The treaty of peace and alliance which was then executed has continued in force for eighty years.

In 1816 the grand old General received the dubious honour of a baronetcy. He survived to render excellent service to the State as Divisional Commander during the operations against the Pindaris and Mahrattas in 1817-18, which were conducted on a scale never since attempted in India. He died at Mirat, full of years and honours, in 1825. His countrymen resolved to keep the veteran's memory green by a permanent memorial, and a public meeting was held at the Town Hall which appointed a Committee to collect subscriptions. The movement was headed by Sir Charles, afterwards Lord, Metcalfe, a name great and venerable in the Bengal Civil Service, and he was actively assisted by others of light and leading in their day. Rs. 40,000 was soon subscribed, and an amateur architect was unearthed in the person of Mr. Charles Knowles Robison, one of the Calcutta Magistrates, who had travelled and studied much. He submitted two sets of designs. The first was for a Grecian Column on the purest lines, and was warmly advocated by Mr. Robison. The second had a Saracenic character, with a very peculiar variation. The upper portion was copied from an ancient Syrian edifice; the lower was a reproduction of an exquisite plate in the colossal work on Egyptian architecture published at the expense of the French Government, by Denon, one of the *savants* who accompanied Napoleon during his memorable expedition to the Delta. The Committee were, happily for Calcutta, induced to choose the Oriental design by the General's well known predilection for Mohamedans.

The work had hardly begun when Rs. 27,000 of the money was lost by the failure of the mercantile house with which it had been deposited in the cataclysm of 1830. Nothing daunted, the Committee made a fresh appeal to the public, and, though most Anglo-Indians had been hard hit by the collapse of Messrs. Palmer and the other great agencies, Rs. 10,000 were got together. Again, the whole vanished in the bankruptcy of the banker who held it as deposit. The second blow would have involved the abandonment of the scheme, but for the public spirit of the contractor, a Mr. Parker, who volunteered to complete the column at a total cost of Rs. 33,000, provided that he received dividends from the estate of both the defunct concerns. This proposal was accepted with effusion, and the works went on merrily, though it was no joke raising the great stones of the gallery and Turkish dome by hand power. Finally, eight years after the demise of its subject, the Ochterlony column dominated Calcutta from its full height of 165 feet above the Maidan.

Tradition hath it that a St. Andrew's Dinner was once held in the chamber at the summit, but I decline to believe that the Scottish community of Calcutta were ever "cribbed, cabined, and confined" within such narrow limits. That curious taste in which our ancestors indulged of having their meals in all sorts of out-of-the-way places renders it possible that a dozen enthusiasts may have dined at that aerial height. The inconveniences endured must have been compensated for by the view, for it extended from Barrackpur to Fort Gloster.

The column bears the following inscription :---

"Sir David Ochterlony, Baronet, Grand Cross of the Military Order of the Bath, Major-General in the Army of Bengal, died at Meerut on the 15th of July, 1825. The people of India, Native and European, to commemorate his services as a Statesman and a Soldier, have, in grateful admiration, raised this column."

Its base was for many years desecrated by becoming a sort of Exchange where khitmatgars bartered the remains of their masters' tiffins with "mean whites." Lord Metcalfe died in England after a long and excruciating illness in 1846, and during the same year Mr. C. K. Robison joined the great majority. He lies in the Circular Road Burial Ground, under a stone which records that it is a "tribute to the Memory of a beloved father."---F. H. S.

---The *Englishman*, Oct. 29.

"AN INDIAN JOURNALIST."

(From *Power*, September 22, 1895.)

I HAVE been reading Mr. Skrine's life of Dr. Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee, entitled "An Indian Journalist" which was published last Sunday. The publication of this work is the only notable event of the past few days. That a Civilian who is the biographer of no less a person than the Lieutenant-Governor of the day should unbend himself so far as to undertake the task of writing the life of an Indian Journalist, who all along occupied a more or less isolated position in his community and was more of a dreamer than a worker, is indeed a very gratifying sign of the times---though old Sambhu was one of those men whom it was impossible to know without loving him passionately. Old Sambhu had a heart, and he felt for others to an extent which is rare in this cold, calculating age. I can forget Sambhu's word-painting. I can forget his scholarship. But the qualities of his heart I can never forget. As a writer of racy paragraphs he was unsurpassed, perhaps unapproached---amongst Bengalees of course. But I fear he was little else besides. As a writer on serious subjects he was not quite successful. He was about the worst man that could be selected for drawing up a petition. His principal defect was his lack of all sense of proportion. Latterly he became ambitious of becoming another Kristodas Pal, without even the rump of a party behind him. He became the friend and correspondent of Viceroys and Governors and would treasure up their letters with a vanity which would be disgusting in a less simple, warm-hearted and guileless man. His letters to Lord Dufferin are very remarkable productions. He takes the Marquis into his confidence and inflicts on him long accounts of his minutest affairs---his health, projected visits and even his arrangements for the conduct of his paper in his hypothetical absence. No village matron gossiping in the ghat could enter into minuter details about herself than are enshrined like gems in Sambhu's letters to the white lords of the Indian creation. He had almost degenerated into a snob. Indeed,

latterly he appears to have become a veritable autograph hunter. Any European of distinction whom he happened to meet anywhere was sure to be the recipient of a letter from Sambhu. From Lord Rosebery down to the humblest guest at Government House, not one escaped the attentions of the autograph-hunter. The story of Sambhu's life as narrated by Mr. Skrine is rather disappointing as it leaves several gaps which somewhat puzzle the reader.

Lord Dufferin and Sir Auckland Colvin appear to have found in Sambhu a regular correspondent. They evidently regarded him as a garrulous old fool and enjoyed his pleasantries. They appreciated his scholarship and his command of the English language, his rich fund of humour, his quaint observations of men and things in general, his frankness and the truly oriental warmth of his heart. They liked him all the more for giving it hot and strong to his own countrymen, and for his out and out support of the measures of Government. The writer of the Baroda Pamphlet was not the same man who week after week sang Hosanna to the glory of the White Brahmins whose worship occupied so much of his last days. But I doubt if any one ever took him seriously. Seriousness was foreign to his constitution. Poppy and Mandagoora do not make a man serious. Sambhu was a splendid failure in life. There is not another instance of a man endowed with so much ability who failed to accomplish anything worth accomplishing. His scholarship was something astonishing. His literary powers were unquestionably of a high order. But still his life was a failure. We all loved, liked and adored him, but I for my part never expected him to play a prominent part in the affairs of his country. His paper, *Reis and Rayyet*, appeals to fit audience but few. To the people at large, his very name was unknown. It was only those who had the privilege of his friendship that could form some idea of the lovable nature of the man. A more forgiving man never lived, nor one whose heart was so full of sympathy for those that sought his counsel or help. Every young man whom he knew worshipped him as a demi-god. His love truly surpassed the love of woman. Greater scholars than he may possibly arise amongst us. Better writers we may see. But never more shall we look upon another of such a kind, warm and sympathetic heart as Sambhu. His conversation was a rare intellectual treat, and he could rivet the attention of his hearers for hours, till even the small hours of the morning: Time passed so swiftly and agreeably in his charming company. The Dutts of Wellington Square, specially Jogesh Babu and Sreesh Babu, literally idolized him. But for their almost romantic devotion to Sambhu, the entire course of his life would perhaps have been directed in a different channel. Jogesh Babu had been the guardian angel of the gifted man, and but for such a devoted admirer we do not know what would have been his fate. Babu Jogesh Chunder has been mainly instrumental in bringing about the publication of this biography. He has performed a task of love and discharged a duty to his departed hero, who was everything to him and to whom he was everything. It is he who has supplied the materials, and whose loving care has passed the pages through the press. Thinking of Sambhu I cannot but think of that loving and chivalrous soul but for whom the world would have heard very little of one of the greatest Bengalees of the present century. As for Mr. Skrine, his too has been a labour of love and we cannot be too thankful to him.

(From the *Madras Standard*, September 30, 1895.)

It is rarely that the life of an Indian journalist becomes worthy of publication; it is more rarely still that such a life comes to be written by an Anglo-Indian and a member of the Indian Civil Service. But, it has come to pass that in the land of the Bengali Babus, the life of at least one man among Indian Journalists has been considered worthy of being written by an Englishman. Dr. Sambhu C. Mookerjee, late Editor of *Reis and Rayyet* was a well-known scholar. He was a man of high intellectual attainments and a brilliant writer who cultivated assiduously the acquaintance of men in authority and of position. He died last year and his "Life, Letters and Correspondence" are now presented to us by Mr. F. H. Skrine, I. C. S. The life story of Mr. Mookerjee occupies but a small portion of the book before us. It was a chequered one. Mookerjee was a Brahmin by birth and a Brahmin of Brahmins all his life. At the age of five, he was sent to a day school kept in the house of a local Zemindar, but here he was more remarkable for his pranks than for application to study. He was transferred to a sectarian seminary and later on he joined the Hindu Metropolitan College where he completed his studies. While at College, he started the *Calcutta Monthly Magazine* which had a mushroom existence. Out of College, he became for a short time the Editor of the *Morning Chronicle*. He then joined the staff of the *Hindoo Patriot*. There he did not remain long. At this period he began the study of the science of Homœopathy and in recognition of his researches in this branch of learning; he obtained the degree of M. D. from an American University. His next resolution was to become a lawyer and he became an articled clerk in the office of a firm of European Attorneys. But he disliked the profession and he rejoined the *Hindoo Patriot* as Sub-Editor. Again, he left that paper to become the Secretary to the Taluqdars' Association and Editor of the *Samachar Hindustani*. His next enterprise consisted in giving up journalism for a time and becoming the Dewan of the Nawab Nazim of Bengal. Here he got into difficulties and love of change induced him to accept the Head Mastership of the Calcutta Training Academy. He had no charm for the school-master's rod and we hear of him next as Secretary to the Raja Sheoraj Singh of Kashipur and then as Minister of Hill Tippera. He was ousted from this place by the intrigues of those attached to the Raja. In 1882, he founded *Reis and Rayyet* and from that date till his death in 1894, he continued as its Editor. It was Mr. Mookerjee's good fortune to associate with some of the best known men in India, and his conservative opinions in social and political matters seem to have endeared him to Europeans particularly. Some of them at least would not have befriended him if in spite of his ability and his natural gifts, he were a Congressman. The chief attraction of the book before us consists in the letters from and to Mr. Mookerjee contained in it; and the interest in them would have been considerably heightened if they were not expurgated editions. It is certainly creditable to be told that Mr. Mookerjee was in corresponding terms with such persons as Major Evans Bell, Sir William Hunter, Sir Salar Jung, Sir Madava Row, Sir Auckland Colvin, Lord Dufferin, Sir Lepel Griffin, Professor Vambéry and Lord Lansdowne. The style in which the letters are written is indeed creditable to the writer, but in some places they seem to be laboured and disclose the vanity of the writer and his great contempt for educated Bengali young men in general and Congress men in particular. The letter addressed to Sir Salar Jung contains a flattering account of the writer and his labours ending evidently with a request for patronage which Mr. Skrine omits to publish. There are several letters to Sir Auckland Colvin written very familiarly beginning with "My dear Sir Auckland" and ending with "Yours sincerely." But Sir Auckland, except in one letter, addresses him only as "Dear Dr. Mookerjee" and "Yours truly." In one letter Mookerjee says "At one time I thought of going to Madras to the Congress, to see how they ordered the matter down south and keep our Boys of Bengal in check, particularly in matters of social discipline. It was not to be. I could not get a P. O. or other presumably safe steamer and I would not form part of the cargo of Babudom of all castes in charge of Thomas Cook and Sons." The book contains a letter published from Sir Lepel Griffin; but there is none to Sir Lepel; similarly while there are not less than half a dozen letters of Major Evans Bell published, not one of those written to him appears in print. Sir Lepel says in his letter "I need not tell you that your estimate of the attacks made upon me by the Anglo-Bengalee press is a just one, as is your statement of the source from which they proceed." It is not difficult for us to guess what Mookerjee must have written to elicit such a statement. In another letter to Sir Auckland Colvin he says "Our people the Boys of the Period in the press and on the platform---are rather difficult to please. I myself don't. But I don't care" The Boys of the period, we suppose, were the leading Congressmen in Calcutta. In a third letter he writes:---"All my friends are mad about the Congress and Congressists, besides all have been long since engaged. If I asked perhaps I could get a separate tent away from that bustle of our Indian Runnymede, but I would not ask Hume or Bonnerjee." It strikes us that Mookerjee would not have succeeded in becoming familiar with Viceroys and Governors---nor even found an Englishman as his biographer---were it not for his anti-Congress tendencies. In many of his letters to men in authority, he goes out of his way to have a fling at the Congress or his "Bengali boys" And we doubt whether Mookerjee could have discharged his duties faithfully as a journalist trammelled by the friendship of Viceroys and Governors.

(From the *Tribune*, October 2, 1895.)

"An Indian Journalist: being the Life, Letters and Correspondence of Dr. Sambhu C. Mookerjee, late Editor of *Reis and Rayyet*, Calcutta," is a book of which the title itself should be attractive to newspaper writers and readers. The interest of the book is heightened by the fact that it has been written by Mr. F. H. Skrine, of the Bengal Civil Service. The book is a well bound octavo volume of nearly 500 pages, but the actual life story of the late Indian journalist occupies only 71 pages, the rest being taken up with correspondence. Mr. Skrine is a Civilian who is nearing his time for pension, and according to himself he has great sympathy with the people of India. But he is discriminating in his sympathy, and that is one of his reasons why he has selected the late Dr. Sambhu C. Mookerjee as his hero. The late Editor of *Reis and Rayyet* was a profound student and an accomplished writer, who has left his mark on Indian journalism. In that he has found a Civilian like Mr. Skrine to record the story of his life he is more fortunate than the great Kristodas Pal himself. There are some special reasons why the memory of the late Editor of

Reis and Rayyet has been so honoured. Babu Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee used to carry on correspondence with such men as Lord Dufferin, Sir Auckland Colvin and Sir Charles Elliott, and---what is perhaps more important---he was not well disposed towards the Congress. But Mr. Skrine is not perhaps aware that this change came over Babu Sambhu Chunder after Lord Dufferin had honoured him with his acquaintance. At the Calcutta Congress of 1886 Babu Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee was a prominent figure, and expressed the greatest admiration for the great national movement. However, it is needless to rake up the past. Mr. Skrine deserves our thanks for his tribute to the memory of an Indian journalist, and perhaps we shall hear of fewer battles royal in the Calcutta Municipality between him and certain other Indian journalists. As the book is published for the benefit of Babu Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee's family we hope it will have a large sale among the Indian as well as the Anglo-Indian public.

(From the *Morning Post of India*, October 15, 1895.)

THE latest addition to the current literature of the country is a neatly got up and handy volume, entitled "Life and Letters of Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee," by Mr. F. H. Skrine, of the Bengal Civil Service. It is, indeed, very good of Mr. Skrine to write a notice of the eminent Indian journalist, whom we lost in the early part of 1894, and to bring out a carefully-edited selection from his correspondence: and it is very generous of him to direct that the proceeds of the book, minus the costs of publication, should be devoted to the support of the family of the subject of the memoir, who have been left unprovided for. Mr. Skrine has performed his self-imposed task, as he says, amid harassing official cares, and in an uncongenial climate, and he brings to the work an unquestioned sympathy with educated natives, and an appreciation of their capacities, motives, and aspirations. Written by a man of undoubted literary talents the book was ushered to the notice of the public with a large, promise, and it is only fair to say that the execution has fulfilled all just expectations. The book would, no doubt, have been much more useful and interesting, if the numerous letters of the Doctor, and the replies thereto, could have been published in full. But unfortunately the obligations that every writer has to the living, and the impolicy of placing at the disposal of the public all of what transpires behind the scenes, prevented Mr. Skrine, as it has always prevented many more eminent writers, from writing and publishing with a total want of reserve. As it is, however, the book has a unique interest, being the memoir of a member of the subject race by a member of the ruling body; and as such, it ought to be widely read in every part of India.

The life of Dr. Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee was a peculiar one. His genius, bright and brilliant in the extreme, was fitful and erratic. Till advanced in years, he never settled down steadily to anything, and though his talents, his literary accomplishments, his wide and varied range of reading, his culture, and his incisive humour, were recognized and appreciated by his countrymen all over India, his want of tact and of singleness of aim and purpose, and of devotion to one leading idea and principle of life, marred what would otherwise have been one of the most prosperous and useful careers. Mr. Skrine has felt a natural delicacy in bringing out this side of the question, and in depicting the shadows that darkened the brightness of the picture. As a thorough-going admirer of Dr. Mookerjee, he will not admit that the subject of his sketch committed even one mistake; and would rather believe in a conspiracy against him, of all his educated and wealthy countrymen, than say that Dr. Mookerjee was once misled by a misguided enthusiasm into doing something he should not have done. Mr. Skrine has said, with all the tact and shrewdness of the practised advocate, all that can possibly be said in defence of his hero at each particular turn of life; but whether that is the true duty of the biographer, we do not know. If Dr. Mookerjee had been alive to-day, he would have been glad to see that many things, which he thought to be great and serious blunders and almost irreparable mistakes, had been presented to the world in a different light by his thorough-going admirer. One reading through Mr. Skrine's pages, would imagine Dr. Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee to be an ideally perfect man, which he was far from being. While giving full credit to Mr. Skrine for this whole-hearted advocacy, as it were, we are not sure that it is the proper course to pursue. The true use of biography is that men, who have their voyage of life yet to go through, and their names and fortunes yet to make, might learn from the lives and experiences of others how to avoid the shoals and quicksands that obstructed their paths; to observe how they had acted in grave emergencies and interesting situations; and to shape their own lives by the light of the lessons thus derived. If Mr. Skrine had interspersed his book, as he might very easily have done, with criticisms and remarks leading to this end, it would have been simply invaluable.

Besides the fact that he edited *Mookerjee's Magazine* and *Reis and Rayyet*, the only important features of Dr. Mookerjee's life were that he had been in three native courts, and that he latterly came to be a regular correspondent of several high officials. For obvious reasons his career in the native courts, in none of which he had a happy time, could not be described or delineated in detail; and the replies of the officials, so far as they let us into opinions about public topics or about each other, have to be carefully avoided. These are the difficulties under which a contemporary author must write; and we can only regret, but cannot get over them. But in reading these pages, one cannot help regretting how great a man Dr. Mookerjee might have been if he had settled down to one course of life in early manhood, and pursued that course with life-long energy and devotion; if he had not been addicted to the use of opium; and if he had devoted more attention, like the eminent Kristodas Pal, to questions of policy and Imperial matters, and left local politics and personalities alone. With all his faults, however, Dr. Mookerjee was one of the most talented and accomplished men this country has produced. It is impossible not to admire his bright intellect, his chaste diction, and his keen sense of the humourous; and it is indeed fortunate that the Indian public should have a monograph, exhibiting and setting out his best qualities, from such an accomplished writer as Mr. Skrine.

WHAT EMPEROR WAS THIS.

HE was one of the greatest monarchs that ever ruled in Europe. He was always at war, yet—but wait; let us take one thing at a time.

He was an enormous eater. He breakfasted at five on a fowl seethed in milk and dressed with sugar and spices. After this he went to sleep again. He dined at twelve, always partaking of twenty dishes. He supped twice; first early in the evening and again about one o'clock — the latter the most solid meal of the four. After meat he ate a great quantity of pastry and sweets, washing them down with vast draughts of beer and wine. Then he would gorge himself on sardine omelettes, fried sausages, eel pies, pickled partridges, fat capons, &c., &c.

Finally he abdicated, did this omnivorous Emperor, and a friendly courtier thus described the power that compelled him to do it. "'Tis a most truculent executioner," said the orator; "it invades the whole body from head to foot. It contracts the nerves with anguish, it freezes the marrow, it converts the fluids of the joints into chalk, and pauses not until it has exhausted the body and conquered the mind by immense torture."

He was crippled in the neck, arms, knees, and hands, and covered with chronic skin eruptions; while his stomach occasioned him constant suffering. He was a wreck at an age when he should still have been active and vigorous.

This is not fiction, it is history; without a syllable of exaggeration. How many of our readers will write and tell us what man this was? A thousand, no doubt.

Alack-a-day! however. Not kings and emperors alone are thus afflicted. Great hosts of us travel the same road. We are not usually gluttons as this royal gentleman was, but people who eat sparingly often have the same malady. Commonly they inherit a tendency to it. On the level of this dreadful disease the rich and the poor, the great and the small, meet together.

Speaking of an experience of her own, a woman says: "My hands became stiff and numb. There seemed to be no feeling in them. I was so crippled that I could not even cut a round of bread. A little later it attacked my legs and feet, the soles of the latter being very tender and sore. The pain was so severe that I often sat down and cried on account of my sufferings and my helplessness. I used rubbing oils and embrocations, but I got no relief. In this way I went on month after month, never expecting to be well again. I felt the first signs of illness in February, 1889. At first I had merely a bad taste in the mouth, no appetite, and was low, tired, and languid. Following this came the agonies of rheumatism, as I have said. I owe my recovery to a suggestion of my husband's. He advised me to try Mother Seigel's Curative Syrup, and got me a bottle from Mr. W. Simpson's, in North Street. After taking it for a fortnight my hands got their right feeling, and I suffered no more from rheumatism nor from indigestion and dyspepsia, which I now understand to be the cause of rheumatism. From that time to this I have been in the best of health. (Signed) (Mrs.) Elizabeth Ann Cook, Southwell Lane, North Street, Horncastle, Lincolnshire, February 1st, 1893."

"In the year 1879," writes another, "rheumatism attacked me, one joint after another. The pains were all over me, although the worst was in one knee. For two years I suffered with it—the doctor's medicines doing no good. In 1881 I read in a little book that rheumatism was caused by indigestion and dyspepsia, and that the true cure for it was Mother Seigel's Syrup. This proved to be true, as after taking three bottles I knew no more of stomach disorder nor rheumatism. I have since recommended this wonderful remedy to hundreds of persons. (Signed) (Mrs.) E. Schofield, 10, West Hill, Southampton Street, Reading, October 26, 1892."

The great Emperor was driven to abdication by rheumatism and gout, caused by his ruined digestive powers. His outraged stomach filled him with poison from top to toe. Yet he never lost his appetite, which was all the worse for him. Not long afterwards he died, having asthma and gravel, with the other consequences of dyspepsia. But one needs not to be a gourmand to have dyspepsia, with its trailing troubles. Any one of fifty causes may provoke it. Watch out for the earliest symptoms and arrest them at once by using the Syrup. It stops the mischief on the spot where it begins, and then purifies the blood.

By the aid of common sense and Mother Seigel the Emperor might have stayed on his throne, might he not?

Yes, but unluckily she wasn't born in time to help him.

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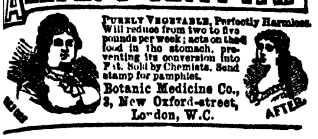

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BY

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Disinterestedness.
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Drawbacks of journalism.
Mookerjee's "Essays."
His letters.
His correspondents.
Aim of this work.

CORRESPONDENCE OF DR S. C MOOKERJEE.

LETTERS

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to Atkinson, the late Mr. E F.T., C.S,
to Banerjee, Babu Jyotish Chunder.
from Banerjee, the late Revd. Dr. K. M.
to Banerjee, Babu Sarodaprasad.
from Bell, the late Major Evans.
from Bhaddaun, Chief of
to Binaya Krishna, Raja.
to Chrlu, Rao Bahadur Ananda.
to Chatterjee, Mr. K. M.
from Clarke, Mr. S E J.
from, to Colvin, Sir Auckland.
to, from Dufferin and Ava, the Marquis of.
from Evans, the Hon'ble Sir Griffith H.P.
to Ganguli, Babu Kisari Mohan.
to Ghose, Babu Nabo Kissen.
to Ghosh, Babu Kali Prosanna.
to Graham, Mr. W.
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to Mookerjee, late Raja Dakhinaranjan.
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to, from Murshidabad, the Nawab Bahadoor of.
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to, from Routledge, Mr. James.
from Russell, Sir W. H.
to Row, Mr. G Syamala.
to Sastri, the Hon'ble A. Sishiah.
to Sinha, Babu Brahmananda.
from Sircar, Dr. Mahendralal.
from Stanley, Lord, of Alderley.
from, to Townsend, Mr. Meredith.
to Underwood, Captain T. O.
to, from Vambéry, Professor Arminius.
to Venkataramanrah, Mr. G.
to Vizianagram, Maharaja of.
to, from Wallace, Sir Donald Mackenzie.
to Wood-Mason, the late Professor J.

LETTERS (& TELEGRAMS) OF CONDOLENCE, from
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Ameer Hossein, Hon'ble Nawab Syed.
Ardagh, Colonel Sir J C.
Banerjee, Babu Manmathanath
Banerjee, Rai Bahadur, Shib Chunder.
Barth, M. A
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Deb, Babu Manahar.
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Dutt, Babu Prosaddoss.
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Graham, Mr William sanna.
Hill, Dr. Fitz Edward.
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Mitter, Babu Sidheshur.
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Tippera, the Bara Thakur of.
Vambéry, Professor Arminius.
Vizianagram, the Maharaja of.
POSTSCRIPT.

After paying the expenses of the publication he surplus will be placed wholly at the disposal of the family of the deceased man of letters.

Orders to be made to the Business Manager, "An Indian Journalist," at the Bee Press, 1, Urkoor Dutt's Lane, Wellington Street, Calcutta.

OPINION ON THE BOOK.

It is a most interesting record of the life of a remarkable man.—Mr H. Babington Smith, Private Secretary to the Viceroy, 5th October, 1895.

Dr. Mookerjee was a famous letter-writer, and there is a breezy freshness and originality about his correspondence which make it very interesting reading.—Sir Alfred W Croft, K C I E., Director of Public Instruction, Bengal. 26th September, 1895.

Dr. Mookerjee was well worthy of the distinction accorded, so far as we know, to no other Native journalist in India, of having an English Civilian for his biographer, but the honour is well in keeping with the life of its subject, who for many years enjoyed the personal friendship of distinguished Civilians, of Provincial Governors, and of successive Viceroys. Mr. Skrine has performed his self-imposed task in no patronising manner, but in the spirit of one who while delighting to do honour to a great and good man does not hide his foibles. The subject of the biography was not free from faults, and Mr. Skrine does not attempt to make him appear otherwise.

It should not be forgotten that there are papers and papers and that as much difference exists between some of the rabid Calcutta prints, and the paper which Dr. Mookerjee founded as between darkness and light. *Reis and Rayyet* has always been remarkable for the mingled ability, candour and charitableness of its criticisms, and the periodical has enjoyed a degree of influence approached by no other native weekly. The paper was so well managed by its founder as to attract general notice and bring him into confidential relations with the makers of history.

He was no mere sycophant, and his friendship with men filling the exalted places of the land was due to no self-seeking endeavours to thrust himself upon them but to their own desire to become acquainted with a Native of great originality and personal charm.

Dr. Mookerjee may be placed with the still lamented Justice Telang in the category of those natives of this country who are connecting links between rulers and ruled, and who by their labours, as well as by their personal example and influence, do immense service in welding together the diverse communities of the land in the bonds of Imperial brotherhood and loyalty—The *Bombay Gazette*, September 28, 1895.

For much of the biographical matter that issues so freely from the press an apology is needed. Had no biography of Dr. Mookerjee, the Editor of *Reis and Rayyet*, appeared, an explanation would have been looked for. A man of his remarkable personality, who was easily first among native Indian journalists, and in many respects occupied a higher plane than they did, and looked at public affairs from a different point of view from theirs, could not be suffered to sink into oblivion without some attempt to perpetuate his memory by the usual expedient of a "life". The difficulties common to all biographers have in this case been increased by special circumstances, not the least of which is that the author belongs to a different race from the subject. It is true that among Englishmen there were many admirers of the learned Doctor, and that he on his side understood the English character as few foreigners understand it. But in spite of this and his remarkable assimilation of English modes of thought and expression, Dr. Mookerjee remained to the last a Brahmin of the Brahmins—a conservation of the best of his inheritance that was nothing but respect and approval. In consequence of this, his ideal biographer would have been one of his own disciples, with the same inherited sympathies, and trained like him in Western learning. If Bengal had produced such another man as Dr. Mookerjee, it was he who should have written his life.

The biography is warmly appreciative without being needlessly laudatory; it gives on the whole a complete picture of the man; and in the book there is not a dull page.

A few of the letters addressed to Dr. Mookerjee are of such minor importance that they might have been omitted with advantage, but not a word of his own letters could have been spared. To say that he writes idiomatic English is to say what is short of the truth. His diction is easy and correct, clear and straightforward, without Oriental luxuriance or striving after effect. Perhaps he is never so charming as when he is laying down the laws of literary form to young aspirants to fame. The letter on page 285, for instance, is a delightful piece of criticism; it is delicate plain-speaking, and he accomplishes the difficult feat of telling a would-be poet that his productions are not in the smallest degree poetry, without one may conclude, either offending the youth or repressing his ardour.

For much more that is well worth reading we must refer readers to the volume itself. Intrinsically it is a book worth buying and reading. —The *Pioneer*, Oct. 5, 1895.

The career of "An Indian Journalist" as described by F H. Skrine of the Indian Civil Service is exceedingly interesting.

Mookerjee's letters are marvels of pure diction which is heightened by his nervous style.

The life has been told by Mr. Skrine in a very pleasant manner and which should make it popular not only with Bengalis but with all those who are able to appreciate merit unmarred by ostentation and earnestness unspoiled by harshness.—The *Muhammadan*, Oct. 5, 1895.

The letters interspersed through the work are both instructive and of great value, while the name of the author will vouch for the excellence of the biography.—The *Bee*, Oct. 12, 1895.

The book has a unique interest, being the memoir of a member of the subject race by a member of the ruling body; and as such, it ought to be widely read in every part of India.

Dr. Mookerjee was one of the most talented and accomplished men this country has produced. It is impossible not to admire his bright intellect, his chaste diction, and his keen sense of the humourous; and it is indeed fortunate that the Indian public should have a monograph, exhibiting and setting out his best qualities, from such an accomplished writer as Mr. Skrine.—The *Morning Post of India*, October 15, 1895.

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REVIEW OF POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND SOCIETY.

VOL. XIV. CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 1895. WHOLE NO. 699

CONTEMPORARY POETRY.

THE SUNY...
JAMES HUT...
(Continued from ...)

CANTO SECOND.

XII.

We dwelt, by the Nurbuddah's stream,
And many a lonely dell is there, *
Where not a whisper kiss the air,
Save the jackal's cry, or the peacock's scream,
Or the bubbling wave, as its breaks, thro' the rocks,
With distant, fitful, roar ;
Like the sound, in the shell, the ear that mocks,
Or a distant surf-beat shore ;
And thus she glides, mid mountain steeps
Clothed, in hues of eternal green,
And thus, her crystal wave she sweeps,
Thro' many a fairy, wood-land scene ;
Whether here, we dwelt, or had our home
Or it might merely be our haunt,
For used alas ! so long to roam,
I scarce know, what, by home is meant ;
Yet I still, we had our fields to tend,
To help a summer's day to spend ;
But when the nights grew long, and clear,
We mounted, and took brand, and spear,
And roamed afar, they wot not where,
Twas all they knew, we were not there,
Till back we came, and welcome found,
As fortune had our labours crowned.

XIII.

At last, we met, and orders gave,
To bounne us, for the Ganges' side ;
Not, ye may judge, to quaff its wave, *
But on a foray ride ;
For fame spoke, loudly, of the gold,
The merchants' coffers could unfold,
To the bright eye of day ;
We mounted each his steed, and then,
We mustered full five hundred men,
Equipped, for march or fray.
We passed Myheer, and Rewah's vale,
Then tarried, in that lovely dell,
Beneath the Hilliah Pass, and there, †
We, onward, sent our scouts before,
To sound the shroffs of Mirzapore, ‡
What gold they had, and where ?
That done, we marched, with set of sun,
And reached the town, and stood within,
Each armed, and ready for the fight,
Ere it was, scarcely, noon of night !
One moment more,—the axes clang,
In fifty quarters, loudly rang,
And quick, the bolts, and bars gave way,
Beneath the hammer's ponderous sway !
Some, at a distance, stood, and gazed,
By the feeble taper's ray ;
But scarce a voice, or hand, was raised,
To scare us, from our prey ;
Of that, we found an ample store !
Each helped himself, nor asked for more.

* The Nurbuddah is a stream of very considerable magnitude, which rises in the highest table-land of Central India, and after a long course, falls into the sea, on the western coast of the Peninsula, at Baroach. It is however only navigable for small craft, for about a hundred miles from its mouth, owing to the rocky, and irregular nature of its bed. The following is a somewhat highly colored picture of a rapid, in its course, at Bherah Ghaut, about ten miles from Jubbulpore. "But let us look once more on the Nurbuddah. Hark! "Hear ye not already his distant roar, like the sound of a sea-shell, "in your ear? Lo! there he comes with mountains, for his banks, "clothed in their ever-green forests ; but let us proceed somewhat "closer, and we stand upon the very verge of the precipice, and "behold his mass of waters dashing along a bed of white marble, "and now, with ceaseless roar, bursting through a chasm, so narrow, "that a bold-hearted mountaineer might leap across it ; but though "the fall be slight and not unbroken, woe be to him that falls into "the gulf below ; now follow the stream in its deep and narrow "channel, and then look on its dry and uncovered bed, where the "strata of white marble shoot up their peaks, like those of snow-capt "mountains in the distance.

"At the Hurn Pahl, a place lower down, the opposite edges of the "mountains are merely divided by the river ; the name of the Hurn "Pahl is derived, from the circumstance of the river being here "so obstructed, by large masses of basalt, rising about ten or eleven "feet above the ordinary level of the stream, and giving passage "to the river, through three very narrow channels, across each of "which, it is supposed an antelope could bound."

The scenery along the banks of the Nurbuddah, in so far, as I have had an opportunity of observing, is wild, wooded, and picturesque in the extreme.

* To drink the waters of the Ganges, or to bathe in the stream, is considered by the Hindoos, as highly salutary in a spiritual sense All Hindoo witnesses, in Indian courts of law, are sworn by the Ganges' water, a cup of which, with a sprig of myrtle in it, is held in their hands, in the same manner as Christians are sworn by the Scriptures.

† This is a magnificent mountain Pass, about halfway between the town of Mirzapore and the capital of Rewah ; the scenery at the bottom of the Pass is very beautiful, and at the top of it, there is a fine water-fall, in the rainy season. During the hot season, the bed of the stream, which is merely a mountain-torrent, is quite dry or nearly so. The following is a description of the fall in question.

"Pass we at present the beautiful and romantic valley of Myheer ; "pass we the fair and cultivated province of Rewah, its neat capital, "washed by the Tonse, and all his unrivalled Falls, and we are now "about to descend the Hilliah Pass. But mark you brawling little "mountain torrent, foaming in its track, which we found it rather "difficult, if not dangerous to pass ; step fifty yards aside, and you "stand upon the verge of a precipice, over which, with one bound, it "rushes in unbroken fall, for perhaps two hundred feet, till in its "descent it becomes nothing, but one white sheet of foam ; while the "roaring, crashing and crackling of the huge rocks below bespeak "their agony, and the craggy precipices on either side, dark as "Erebus, and dripping with spray, look on its tortures, with unalter-"able mien."

‡ Mirzapore is a very handsome city, though not one of the first class, in magnitude. It is situated on the right bank of the Ganges, about thirty miles above Benares. It is considered the key of the Dukhun, or central part of India, and is a great mart for all sorts o merchandise, more particularly cotton.

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XIV.

The signal given, we left the town,
And laughed the weary march away,
Across the table-land, that lay,
Between us, and the Soane ;
Rhotass, a moment, saw us pause, *
High, frowning o'er the vale, it stands,
A fortress formed to freedom's hands,
And worthy of her cause !
But where are those, with hearts so bold,
And true, that dare to hold ?
From thence, we downward tracked the stream,
That glittered, in the silver beam
Of an eastern queen of night ;
Its streamlets wandering thro' the plain,
Amid its isles, seemed some vast chain,
Formed, by some magic sleight ;
We followed, by its crystal waves,
By Baroon's Ghaut, to Bhelah's caves. *
Those temples of a far-past age
Dug, in the heart of the living rock,
Now echoed, to our lawless rage,
And to our impious mock !
They were so old, none knew, 'twas said,
Their purpose, or when they were made ;
And that may be ; but this I know,
That, never, did old mother Earth
Give, to the day, a ruder birth,
Than that lay 'camped, in the plain below,
Cleaning their arms, for the coming fray,
For close at hand, a city lay ;
It was my once-loved home, and now,
I thought me of my wrongs, and vow !
Perhaps, I would have saved !—but how ?

(To be continued.)

* For an account of the magnificent, and I should almost think, impregnable fortress, I beg to refer the reader to the following extract from a tale of fiction, which however is sufficiently accurate, for our present purpose. It may be as well however to premise, that the description refers to a period of three hundred years back ; the fortress has been for some years unoccupied. It is now utterly deserted, and its buildings are fast falling to ruin and decay.

"An easy march the following morning brought them to a considerable [illegible] on, at the bottom of the fortress of Rhotass. It was impossible [illegible] survey the scene before them, without awe and astonishment. On gazing up to the top of this vast height, no fortress, or building of any sort could be observed, save on one spot, where a small temple of delicate proportions appeared to totter over the precipice. The huge cliffs or barrier rose before them, in solemn and imposing majesty, beetling over the Soane, and the fertile valley, through which it takes it course. No situation can possibly be conceived to be more impregnable, and, accordingly, Rhotasghur can be traced as a place of strength, for upwards of six hundred years before the birth of our Saviour. It is built, not on a mere hill, but on a huge detached portion of the highest table-land of India, containing at top, a square area of at least ten miles ; on two-thirds of the circumference, it projects into the valley underneath, in bold relief, and on the remainder, it is separated from the adjacent table-land, by a huge chasm, or deeply wooded glen, of some miles in breadth, through which a streamlet takes its course. There were but three footpaths, or ghauts as they are termed, which led to the top of this vast height, and these were of so abrupt and difficult a nature, as to be almost insurmountable of themselves, and utterly to preclude an enemy from entering, against the slightest opposition or resistance. The ascent occupied nearly two miles in length. To the height of about twelve hundred feet it was gradual, but after that, the rock rose for nearly three hundred feet, as prependicularly, as if it had been scarped by the hand of man. The sides of the mountain, if such it can be called, were everywhere clothed towards its base, with impervious woods, which were then, as they are now, so infested with tigers, and other beasts of prey, that no traveller could venture to pass through them, unarmed and unaccompanied. After the party had satisfied themselves, in viewing the exterior of the fortress, they prepared to ascend, and this they were obliged to do on foot, with the exception of Luchmee, who was with great difficulty conveyed up in her litter. Sometimes her bearers moved along narrow ledges of rock, where the slip of a foot would have insured destruction ; yet she felt no alarm, except for Jellal, who all along continued to walk faithfully, by her side. After the perilous ascent, Luchmee alighted from her litter, and could not help being struck with the romantic beauty of the spot. The fields were apparently covered with beautiful woodlands and orchards, waving in a cool and refreshing breeze, that inspired new life and vigour into every vein To look downwards, from this vast height, excited feelings both of terror and delight ; terror at the dreadful and unbroken descent, and delight as the eye was directed to the magnificent Soane, rolling his mass of crystal waters, through the wide-spreading valley, which they fertilized. At the top of the ascent, the party found horses waiting for them, and proceeded, at a quiet pace, towards the palace, which was about a mile distant from them. On every hand, gardens and orchards were cultivated, stocked with the mango, and the choicest fruit trees of India. Villages were to be seen, scattered here and there, the husbandmen were busy at the wells, irrigating their crops, and now and then the maidens tripped lightly and gracefully along, from the adjacent tank, with their water pots delicately poised upon their heads. In short, Rhotasghur contained within itself a little empire, secluded from the world, where happiness might have been delighted to dwell, if he be indeed a denizen of earth. The palace itself was a beautiful and extensive pile of buildings, consisting of four different squares or quadrangles, in which resided the several branches of the imperial family. The state rooms were spacious and elegant, and there was no lack of those private passages, which are so frequently to be found in the palaces of the East, and which generally lead to the Haram or forbidden apartments."

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WEEKLYANA.

THE London Correspondent of the *Indian Spectator* has a paragraph on the *Times'* notice of Mr. Skrine's "An Indian Journalist :"

"The 'Indian Affairs' column in the *Times* this week is mainly occupied with a review of the *Life and Letters of Dr. S. C. Mookerjee* by Mr. Skrine, the well-known Bengal Civilian. The review is really a concise biography of the noted Bengali journalist, bringing up all the more essential and significant incidents of his career. This is done, not only in a kindly appreciative spirit, but in such a way as must, for English readers, throw new and interesting side-lights on Hindu life and its more enterprising intellectual aspects. As a character-study, and that of a man who went through many vicissitudes—this sketch—as Mr. Skrine's book must be in greater degree—shows Mookerjee in his maturity ; hence, it would be instructive for those of your readers who have at hand back numbers of the *Indian Magazine and Review* to compare with the final result, Mr. Hodgson Pratt's high estimate of Mookerjee's character as it appeared to his then Civilian superior. Possibly, Mr. Skrine's memoir, to which attention will be drawn by this notice in the *Times*, may serve to modify and enlarge our insular estimate as to the value of that *bête noire*, the 'Bengali Babu,' as a factor in our Indian imperial system. It may be mentioned that the opening para. of this notice glances at the improvement in the tone and quality of the Indian press ; it also speaks of the earlier *Voice of India*, and reminds readers that the object of that serial is still served in the columns of the *Indian Spectator*."

* *

HE also reports :—

"Your worthy citizen, Mr. Dorabji P. Cama has this week written to the Lord Mayor, forwarding one hundred guineas for the Mansion House Poor-box as fulfilling the 'precepts of his religion' on the occasion of the anniversary of the decease of his wife—whom many of your friends will remember. Mr. Cama continues to lead a very retired life, though he is still diligent in business."

* The great military road, from the lower to the upper provinces of India, crosses the Soane, at the ghaut, or ferry, at Baroon. The remarkable caves at Bhelah are probably mithratic, and to this supposition, the text of the poem has reference. For information, regarding the uses or purposes of mithratic caves, I beg to refer the reader to the Note on the subject of Bhurmjoun. The following account of the outward appearance of these extraordinary excavations is taken from the tale of fiction, to which I have already, more than once, referred.

"Asmaun Singh now turned his steps homewards, visiting the caves at Bhelah, by the way. He passed the *Kouwa Doul*, that airy pinnacle, on the summit of which a huge mass of rock is so delicately poised, that a crow alighting on it, it is supposed, might make it tremble, and hence its name. The Rajah looked with reverence on the religious sculptures, which surrounded its base, the work of ages too remote, for even traditionary lore. About a mile from this, arose a chain of rocky mountains, consisting of huge loose masses of stone, from amongst which, the rains of ages appeared to have washed away every particle of earth, which had perhaps once given them form, and consistence.

"They were, in short, the skeletons of mountains. On nearer inspection however, it was found that they were traversed in different places, by strata, in which the unwearied and indefatigable industry of man had hewn out chambers, in the solid rock. There were six or seven of these, made at different places, some of which were as large, as a spacious apartment. In all of them, the walls in the interior were as smooth as polished marble, or rather as polished granite, for of the latter, the strata of rock consisted. There were a few inscriptions observable on the doorways, but of so old a character, as to be illegible, by any of the Rajah's followers. In short the caves, or rather the excavations at Bhelah had survived the names of those, who dug them, and the very purpose, for which they had been excavated, had now become the sport of mystery, and doubt."

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CORRESPONDENCE OF DR. S. C. MOOKERJEE.

LETTERS
to, from Ardagh, Col. Sir J.C.,
to Atkinson, the late Mr. E F T., C.S.,
to Banerjee, Babu Jyotish Chunder.
from Banerjee, the late Revd. Dr. K. M.
to Banerjee, Babu Sarodaprasad.
from Bell, the late Major Evans.
from Bhaddaur, Chief of.
to Binaya Krishna, Raja.
to Chrlu, Rai Bahadur Ananda.
to Chatterjee, Mr. K. M.
from Clarke, Mr. S.J.
from, to Colvin, Sir Auckland.
to, from Dufferin and Ava, the Marquis of.
from Evans, the Hon'ble Sir Griffith H.P.
to Ganguli, Babu Kisari Mohan.
to Ghose, Babu Nabo Kissen.
to Ghosh, Babu Kali Prosanna.
to Graham, Mr. W.
from Griffin, Sir Lepel.
from Guha, Babu Saroda Kant.
to Hall, Dr. Fitz Edward.
from Hume, Mr. Allan O.
from Hunter, Sir W. W.
to Jenkins, Mr. Edward.
to Jung, the late Nawab Sir Salar.
to Knight, Mr. Paul.
from Knight, the late Mr. Robert.
from Lansdowne, the Marquis of.
to Law, Kumar Kristodas.
to Lyon, Mr. Percy C.
to Mahomed, Moulvi Syed.
to Mallik, Mr. H. C.
to Marston, Miss Ann.
from Metha, Mr. R. D.
to Mitra, the late Raja Dr. Rajendralala.
to Mookerjee, late Raja Dakhinaranjan.
from Mookerjee, Mr. J. C.
from M'Neil, Professor H (San Francisco).
to, from Murshidabad, the Nawab Bahadoor of.
from Nayaratna, Mahamahapadhya M. C.
from Osborn, the late Colonel Robert D.
to Rao, Mr. G Venkata Appa.
to Rao, the late Sir T. Madhava.
to Rattigan, Sir William H.
from Rosebery, Earl of.
to, from Routledge, Mr. James.
from Russell, Sir W. H.
to Row, Mr. G. Syamala.
to Sastri, the Hon'ble A. Sashiah.
to Sinha, Babu Brahmananda.
from Sircar, Dr. Mahendralal.
from Stanley, Lord, of Alderley.
from, to Townsend, Mr. Meredith.
to Underwood, Captain T O
to, from Vambéry, Professor Arminius.
to Vencataramanaih, Mr. G.
to Vizianagram, Maharaja of.
to, from Wallace, Sir Donald Mackenzie.
to Wood-Mason, the late Professor J.

LETTERS (& TELEGRAMS) OF CONDOLENCE, from
Abdus Subhan, Moulvi A. K. M.
Ameer Hossein, Hon'ble Nawab Syed.
Ardagh, Colonel Sir J C.
Banerjee, Babu Manmathanath
Banerjee, Rai Bahadur, Shib Chunder.
Barth, M. A.
Belchambers, Mr. R.
Deb, Babu Manahar.
Dutt, Mr. O. C.
Dutt, Babu Prosanddoss.
Elgin, Lord.
Ghose, Babu Norender K.
Ghosh, Babu Kali Prasanna.
Graham, Mr. William.
Hall, Dr. Fitz Edward.
Haridas Viharidas Desai, the late Dewan.
Iyer, Mr. A. Krishnaswami.
Lambert, Sir John.
Mahomed, Moulvi Syed.
Mitra, Mr. B. C.
Mitter, Babu Sudheshur.
Mookerjee, Raja Peary Mohan.
Mookerjee, Babu Surendra Nath.
Murshidabad, the Nawab Bahadoor of.
Routledge, Mr. James.
Roy, Babu E. C.
Roy, Babu Sarat Chunder.
Sanyal, Babu Dinabundho.
Savitri Library.
Tippera, the Bara Thakur of.
Vambéry, Professor Arminius.
Vizianagram, the Maharaja of.
POSTSCRIPT.

After paying the expenses of the publication the surplus will be placed wholly at the disposal of the family of the deceased man of letters.

Orders to be made to the Business Manager, "An Indian Journalist," at the Bee Press, 1. Uckoor Dutt's Lane, Wellington Street, Calcutta.

OPINION ON THE BOOK.

It is a most interesting record of the life of a remarkable man.—Mr. H. Babington Smith, Private Secretary to the Viceroy, 5th October, 1895.

Dr. Mookerjee was a famous letter-writer, and there is a breezy freshness and originality about his correspondence which make it very interesting reading.—Sir Alfred W. Croft, K.C I E., Director of Public Instuction, Bengal. 26th September, 1895.

It is not that amid the pressure of harassing official duties an English Civilian can find either time or opportunity to pay so graceful a tribute to the memory of a native personality as F. H. Skrine has done in his biography of the late Dr. Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee, the well-known Bengal journalist (Calcutta: Thacker, Spink and Co.); nor are there many who are more worthy of being thus honoured than the late Editor of *Reis and Rayyet.*

We may at any rate cordially agree with Mr. Skrine that the story of Mookerjee's life, with all its lights and shadows, is pregnant with lessons for those who desire to know the real India.

No weekly paper, Mr. Skrine tells us, not even the *Hindoo Patriot*, in its palmiest days under Kristodas Pal, enjoyed a degree of influence in any way approaching that which was soon attained by *Reis and Rayyet.*

A man of large heart and great qualities, his death from pneumonia in the early spring in the last year was a distinct and heavy loss to Indian journalism, and it was an admirable idea on Mr. Skrine's part to put his Life and Letters upon record.—The *Times of India*, (Bombay) September 30, 1895

It is rarely that the life of an Indian journalist becomes worthy of publication; it is more rarely still that such a life comes to be written by an Anglo-Indian and a member of the Indian Civil Service But, it has come to pass that in the land of the Bengali Babus, the life of at least one man among Indian journalists has been considered worthy of being written by an Englishman.—The *Madras Standard*, (Madras) September 30, 1895

The late Editor of *Reis and Rayyet* was a profound student and an accomplished writer, who has left his mark on Indian journalism. In that he has found a Civilian like Mr Skrine to record the story of his life he is more fortunate than the great Kristodas Pal himself.—The *Tribune*, (Lahore) October 2, 1895.

For much of the biographical matter that issues so freely from the press an apology is needed. Had no biography of Dr. Mookerjee, the Editor of *Reis and Rayyet*, appeared, an explanation would have been looked for. A man of his remarkable personality, who was easily first among native Indian journalists, and in many respects occupied a higher plane than they did, and looked at public affairs from a different point of view from theirs, could not be suffered to sink into oblivion without some

attempt to perpetuate his memory by the usual expedient of a "life." The difficulties common to all biographers have in this case been increased by special circumstances, not the least of which is that the author belongs to a different race from the subject. It is true that among Englishmen there were many admirers of the learned Doctor, and that he on his side understood the English character as few foreigners understand it. But in spite of this and his remarkable assimilation of English modes of thought and expression, Dr. Mookerjee remained to the last a Brahman of the Brahmans—a conservation of the best of his inheritance that wins nothing but respect and approval. In consequence of this, his ideal biographer would have been one of his own disciples, with the same inherited sympathies, and trained like him in Western learning. If Bengal had produced such another man as Dr. Mookerjee, it was he who should have written his life.

The biography is warmly appreciative without being needlessly laudatory; it gives on the whole a complete picture of the man; and in the book there is not a dull page.

A few of the letters addressed to Dr. Mookerjee are of such minor importance that they might have been omitted with advantage, but not a word of his own letters could have been spared. To say that he writes idiomatic English is to say what is short of the truth. His diction is easy and correct, clear and straightforward, without Oriental luxuriance or striving after effect. Perhaps he is never so charming as when he is laying down the laws of literary form to young aspirants to fame. The letter on page 285, for instance, is a delightful piece of criticism: it is delicate plain-speaking, and he accomplishes the difficult feat of telling a would-be poet that his productions are not in the smallest degree poetry, without one may conclude, either offending the youth or repressing his ardour.

For much more that is well worth reading we must refer readers to the volume itself. Intrinsically it is a book worth buying and reading.—The *Pioneer*, (Allahabad) Oct. 5, 1895.

The career of "An Indian Journalist" as described by F. H. Skrine of the Indian Civil Service is exceedingly interesting.

Mookerjee's letters are marvels of pure diction which is heightened by his nervous style.

The life has been told by Mr. Skrine in a very pleasant manner and which should make it popular not only with Bengalis but with all those who are able to appreciate merit unmarred by ostentation and earnestness unspoiled by harshness.—The *Muhammadan*, (Madras) Oct. 5, 1895.

The work leaves nothing to be desired either in the way of completeness, impartiality, or lifelike portrayal of character.

Mr. Skrine deals with his interesting subject with the unfailing instinct of the biographer. Every side of Dr. Mookerjee's complex character is treated with sympathy tempered by discrimination.

Mr. Skrine's narrative certainly impresses one with the individuality of a remarkable man.

Mookerjee's own letters show that he had not only acquired a command of clear and flexible English but that he had also assimilated that sturdy independence of thought and character which is supposed to be a peculiar possession of natives of Great Britain. His reading and the stores of his general information appear to have been, considering his opportunities, little less than marvellous.

One of the first to express his condolence with the family of the deceased writer was the present Viceroy, Lord Elgin. Mookerjee appears to have won the affection not only of the dignitaries with whom he came in contact, but also of those in low estate.

The impression left upon the mind upon laying down the book is that of a good and able man whose career has been graphically portrayed.—The *Englishman*, (Calcutta) October 15, 1895.

The career of an eminent Bengali editor, who died in 1894, throws a curious light upon the race elements and hereditary influences which affect the criticisms of Indian journalists on British rule.

The "Life and Letters of Dr. S. C. Mookerjee," a book just edited by a distinguished civilian in Calcutta, takes us behind the scenes of Indian journalism.

It is a narrative, written with insight and a complete mastery of the facts, of how a clever youth gradually grew into one of the ablest leader-writers in Bengal, and still more gradually matured into one of the fairest-minded editors that western education in India has yet produced. If the training and experience which develop the journalist in England are sometimes varied, they seem in India to have an even wider range.

But the object of this notice is to show how a great Bengali journalist is made; space forbids us to enter upon his actual performances. They will be found set forth at sufficient length, and with much felicity of expression, in Mr. Skrine's admirable monograph. It is characteristic of the noble service to which Mr. Skrine belongs, that such a book should have issued from its ranks. Dr. Mookerjee was no optimist. One of his brilliant speeches contained the following sentence:—"India has neither the soil nor the elasticity, enjoyed by young and vigorous communities, but present the arid rocks and deserts of an effete civilization, hardly stirred to a semblance of life by a foreign occupation dozing over its easily-gained advantages." This was true of the pre-Mutiny India of 1851. If it is no longer true of the Queen's India of 1895, we owe it in no small measure to Indian journalists like Dr. Mookerjee who have laboured, amid some misrepresentation, to quicken the "semblance of life" into a living reality.—The *Times*, (London) October 14, 1895.

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DROIT ET AVANT

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(PRINCE & PEASANT)

WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

VOL. XIV. CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 1895. WHOLE NO. 701.

CONTEMPORARY POETRY.

THE SUNYASSEE.

BY JAMES HUTCHINSON.

(*Continued from p. 530.*)

CANTO THIRD.

In vain, we ride before the blast,
Or trace the long, and weary way,
Without a star, whose cheering ray
May point us, to some haven at last ;
The restless mind, without an aim,
Is scorched, at last, by passion's flame,
And we will, vainly, seek for rest,
In sunny lands, and cloudless skies ;
Still memory pursues, nor dies,
A hell or heaven, within the breast.

I.

Alone, I trod the desert way,
And, scarce, a pathway marked the road ;
But all was silent, save the neigh
Of the distant steed, the traveller rode ;
Or the Sarus, as he flew o'er head ; *
Or the murmur, from some river's bed ;
Or the tinkling of the Bunjarrah's bells, †
As he swept, thro' the lone, and wooded dells,
His cattle browsing, as they went,
Tho' laden was each goodly steer ;
Or the belling, from each thicket sent,
By herds of wild untended deer ;
Or the Jogee, with his matted hair, ‡
As he muttered, still, his ceaseless prayer ;
Or the forest monarch's dreadful roar,
As he seized his prey, or yelled for more ;
I recked them not,—my heart was far away,
And sorrowed, as I went, o'er some, long vanished, day.

II.

Years passed away, and, with them, passed
The hope of that, to come at last,
The long, self-promised, hoped for years
Of happiness, undimmed by tears.
They came not, as I said before ;
Perhaps, had sought some unknown shore ;
But those, who've found them, best can tell
The sun-bright clime, in which they dwell ;
I found it not !—how could I find
Enjoyment, with a tortured mind ?
And yet, perhaps, my sorrow's force
Had more of sadness, than remorse ;
Tho' not all guiltless, I could brave
The scorn of living, or the grave
But, when I thought of Lilloo's fate
Hope told me, it was all too late ;
That, for the present, all was o'er,
And life, a sea, without a shore ;—
But that were little ,—for I grieve,
Not for myself, but her, who died ;
For her, who, on that fatal eve,
For me, was whelmed, beneath the tide.

III.

I, now, had none, for whom to live ;
No one, to whom 'twere joy to give ;
Yet deem not thence, I knew not bliss,
Tho' brief my hours of happiness ;
Oh ! many a stately flower,
Arrayed, in woman's fairest charms,
Hath decked my lonely bower ;
Aye ! lain within these arms ;
But unesteemed, because unwooed,
They had no power, to soothe my mood,
Nor influence enough, to bind
Th' affections of a fickle mind ;
Ah ! no, not fickle ; tho' unwed,
My heart was constant to the dead ;
Yet I have often tried, in vain,
To wake my soul, to love, again,
As oft, remembrance fresh returned,
And, from my breast, the intruder spurned.

IV.

And thus, I had no aim, in life ;
Then wherefore, still, this reckless strife,
This ceaseless warfare, with my kind,
For happiness, I could not find ;
This course of rapine, and of stealth
For what I valued not,—their wealth.

* The Sarus is a stately and magnificent bird, of a light slate colour, approaching to a French gray, belonging to the Stork or Crane species. Its call, as it flies over the wild, and wooded tracks of Central India, is very striking and sublime. The Sarus, I believe, is held in great religious veneration, by the Hindoos.

† The Bunjarrahs may be said to be the desert merchants of India. They are to be found transversing the wild, and unfrequented tracks of the central parts of the country, with their flocks of cattle grazing, as they go, and laden with grain, cotton, iron, or other articles of internal traffic. They are generally accompanied by their women, if not by their families. At the end of their day's journey, they pile up their goods, in the form of a rude fortification, the interior of which is occupied by themselves, and their cattle. In times of war, the Bunjarrahs are generally respected, by the contending armies. The name, I believe, literally signifies, sweepers of the jungle. The tinkling, alluded to in the text, is occasioned, by the bells, which they are in the habit of attaching to the necks of their favourite steers.

‡ The Jogee is one of the orders of itinerant religious mendicants belonging to the Hindoo faith.

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The perils, and the enterprise,
At first, had power to soothe my grief ;
But grown familiar, with their guise,
Tney, long, had ceased to yield relief ;—
And could these fail, and sordid gold
The gates of happiness unfold ?
Ah ! no, I had enough, and yet,
Memory defied me, to forget.

V.

I found, it was a foolish thought,
To deem, content could, thus, be bought,
Or by aught else, except that love,
That bids us, lift our hearts above ;
And thus there came, by grace divine,
Remembrance of my native vale,
And of Bood'h-Gyah's holy shrine ;
I called to mind its cloistered cell,
The quiet of each sainted tomb ;
And thought, if aught could soothe my gloom,
It would be, there, to dwell ;
And it might be, my sufferings past,
And penances,—to rest at last.

VI.

I spoke, and bade adieu to none,
But late, one night, I took my way ;
None knew, or cared, where I had gone ;
Perhaps they sorrowed, for a day,
For I was ever first to ride,
And skilful too, their course to guide ;
But what availed the parting tear,
Or bitterer still, the taunt, and jeer ;
My purpose ta'en, they could not shake,—
Or hinder it ;—when [illegible]n awake ?

VII.

I gained, at length, the well-known pile,
And hoped to find, in convent cell, *
The quiet, which I loved so well.
At first, all nature seemed to smile,
The Fulgo's broad, and glassy stream
Swept past me, like a fleeting dream ;
I saw the craggy ridge extend,
And hailed it, as a well-known friend ;
And farther still,—the lake around,
So loved, seemed hallo'd ground ;
The very birds, that wheeled their flight,
In mazy circles, through the air,
Hovering, above its waters fair,
Seemed those, that, late, had met my sight.

VIII.

But Oh ! I could not turn my eye,
Adown the stream, lest I should spy
Scenes, linked so darkly, with my fate, †
That beautiful, although they be,
And graven, on my memory,
I could no longer contemplate.
And then, there were some silly tongues,
That prattl'd of my Lord's wrongs ;
And how, those wrongs wrought farther deeds,
O'er which, my heart, yet, freshly bleeds
Their tale was false ,—none knew her fate ,
Save one, and that were now too late ,
That latest witness was her sire,
And where is he ?—go ask the pyre

(To be continued.)

* There are several religious edifices at Bood'h Gyah, but the one here more particularly alluded to, is a college or convent of religious ascetics. I rather think, that they are of the Buddhist faith ; at the head of the institution, there is a Mohunt, or superior, who on occasions of ceremony goes about as described in the text, attended by twenty, thirty or forty of these brethren, but scantily clad, and armed with sticks or bludgeons. The first appearance of this cortege, even to a person accustomed to the East, is very striking.

† It has been already mentioned, that the city of Gyah is only about six miles, farther down the stream, than Bood'h-Gyah , both are situated close to the banks of the Fulgo.

WEEKLYANA.

DR. M. R. Leverson, Secretary to the Anti-Vaccination Society of America, summarises the four blue books of the British Royal Commission and of the works of Drs. Crookshank, Creighton and Buckly, in these words :—

1st. That vaccination never has prevented and never can prevent an attack of small-pox.

2nd. That it is powerless to modify any such attack.

3rd. That it has invaccinated, and is liable to invaccinate *syphilis*, *cancer*, *leprosy*, tuberculosis, scrofula and many other diseases.

4th. That the human analogue of cow-pox is syphilis or great pox.

5th. That it is almost certain that vaccination has caused more deaths and diseases than ever has small-pox, whose dangers and ravages have been wickedly exaggerated by official quacks.

6th. That Jenner was a mercenary charlatan whose ignorance and impatience of scientific methods were equalled only by his mendacity, in which last he has been imitated by his official followers.

***

THE following farewell Army order was issued on the occasion of relinquishing the command of Her Majesty's Army by the Duke of Cambridge who had held the distinguished position for 39 years, and Her Majesty's commission for 58 years.

"War Office, October 31, 1895.

Field-Marshal H.R.H. the Duke of Cambridge, K.G., relinquishes to-day the duties of the command of Her Majesty's Army, a post of honour and distinction which he has held since July 16, 1856. His Royal Highness has for nearly fifty-eight years held Her Majesty's commission, and he now severs his connection with the active duties of his profession with the deepest sorrow and regret. In relinquishing these duties His Royal Highness desires to place on record the obligations he is under to all general and other officers who have so uniformly and ably assisted and supported him in maintaining the Army in the high state of discipline and efficiency for which it is distinguished, and he desires to express his deep sense of the admirable conduct, both in the field and in quarters, invariably displayed by officers, warrant officers, non-commissioned officers, and men of the active Service over whom he has so long presided. The period covering His Royal Highness's command of the Army has been one of great changes. The abolition of purchase, the introduction of short service, of the territorial system, and of improved arms and equipments, have all been materially assisted in their development by the cordial co-operation of all ranks of the officers of the Army. The Militia have been brought into closer connection with the Line, the Yeomanry have become far more efficient, and the institution of the Volunteer Force in 1859 marked an important epoch in the expansion of the defensive resources of the Empire. By constant attention to their duties and the desire to perfect themselves in practical knowledge of the military profession all the Auxiliary Forces, including the Volunteers, have become a valuable portion of Her Majesty's Army. In India also most important military changes have been effected, commencing with the amalgamation of the late East India Company's troops with Her Majesty's Army in 1860, since which time great changes have been arrived at in many details connected with the Army of India, concluding with the recent reorganisation of the Presidential armies into one command under the control of the Commander-in-Chief in India. In bidding the Army an affectionate farewell the Duke of Cambridge feels assured he is handing over to his able and distinguished successor a force of which Her Majesty the Queen and the Empire at large may well be proud, and he asks the Army and the nation that, though relinquishing his active duties, his interest in and his devotion to the Service will continue to the end of his days.—By command of His Royal Highness the Field-Marshal Commander-in-Chief.—REDVERS BULLER, A.G."

On his retirement, the Duke has been honoured with the unprecedented title of Colonel-in-Chief of the British Army. He will besides draw his pay as Field-Marshal under the old warrant obtaining before the abolition of the system of honorary colonelcies, which considerably adds to his retiring allowance.

A royal Duke has been removed from the head of the British army, and no member of the reigning family succeeds him. It is also to be put beyond all control, nominal as it is, of the Sovereign. The Navy has passed out of Her Majesty's hands. Its affairs are administered by the independent Board of Admiralty. "The commissions of naval officers are not signed by the Queen, nor is Her Majesty referred to in the appointments and promotions of officers, in the ratification of courts-martial, nor is there any such connection between the Crown and the First Lord in regard to the service as existed between the Sovereign and the Commander-in-Chief for the last thirty-nine years at all events." The same change is foreshadowed in the new arrangements about the Army. Its affairs will be administered by a Board with a non-royal Commander-in-Chief as its head, under the lead of the Secretary of State for War. Here is an echo of the Radical cry for the abolition of royalty.

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NEXT day, the new Commander-in-Chief Lord Wolseley issued the following order :

"In obedience to the gracious order of Her Majesty the Queen, Field-Marshal Viscount Wolseley assumes command of the Land

Forces of the Crown at home and abroad, in succession to Field-Marshal His Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge. In this, his first, Army order Lord Wolseley wishes, in the name of the Army, to assure His Royal Highness of the affectionate regard of all who have served under him during his long period of office. It will be Lord Wolseley's endeavour, in the discharge of the high duties now entrusted to him, to maintain the great traditions of the British Army, to further the well-being of the soldier, and to encourage the progress called for by the unceasing advance in warlike appliances and in military knowledge which marks this age. The good spirit which animates alike the Regulars, the Militia, the Yeomanry, and the Volunteers, is so well known to Lord Wolseley that he confidently relies upon the loyal support of all ranks in his desire to promote the military efficiency of Her Majesty's Army.—By Command of Field-Marshal the Viscount Wolseley, Commander-in-Chief.—REDVERS BULLER, A.G."

The Duke, who was opposed to many reforms, leaves the Army in a high state of discipline and efficiency. The Viscount comes in to introduce reforms and make it a real fighting machine, ready to be used for whatever purpose the nation might require.

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THE next Criminal Sessions of the High Court will commence from Wednesday, the 4th of December, Mr. Justice Trevelyan presiding.

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THE Upper India Chamber of Commerce has re-elected its President Mr. W. E. Cooper as its representative in the Legislative Council of the N.-W. P. and Oudh.

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IN the Court of the Sessions Judge of Allahabad five men were tried for the death of a *pahlwan* (wrestler), two being charged with murder and three with abetment of the offence. The three assessors, disbelieving the evidence of the informer, were of opinion that none of the accused was guilty. "In view of the conflicting evidence in the case," the Judge did not think it was necessary for him "to arrive at a different conclusion." The tables have been turned upon the informer, who is under arrest and will be tried for perjury.

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THE statue of Lord Reay has arrived at Bombay. It is being erected near that of Sir Richard Temple and will be unveiled by Lord Sandhurst.

NOTES & LEADERETTES,

OUR OWN NEWS,

&

THE WEEK'S TELEGRAMS IN BRIEF, WITH OCCASIONAL COMMENTS.

THE troubles of the Sultan continue. He has appointed a Special Commission to report day and night upon the result of the measures adopted for the restoration of order in Anatolia.

Fresh massacres of Christians have taken place at Amtal, near Aleppo, where 200 were killed. A large number have also been killed at Marash. A state of anarchy prevails in Central Albania, where the chiefs are defying the authority of the Porte.

The Russian Black Sea fleet has been recommissioned, and the troops at Odessa are all ready for active service.

Sir Philip Currie, British Ambassador, has returned to Constantinople.

The situation in Asia Minor is improving. The Ambassadors of the Powers believe that a conference will be indispensable in order to settle Turkish affairs. Meanwhile they are in favour of deferring further action beyond doubling the guard ships of the Embassies. There is no proposal for a conference and the respective Cabinets consider no adequate basis exists for the same.

Fifty foreign warships are assembled in the Levant, eighteen of which are British.

The situation in Turkey has generally improved, and all is now quiet in Asia Minor. In consequence of this a better feeling prevails on all the Bourses in Europe.

The American missionaries at Marash report that the carnage on the 19th was terrible, many hundreds having been killed. The Armenians estimate that 40,000 victims have fallen during the late massacres.

The Turkish Foreign Minister has informed Sir Philip Currie, the British Ambassador, that the doubling of guardships at Constantinople by the Powers would be granted.

During a debate in the Italian Chamber of Deputies Signor Crispi, Premier, expressed his confidence that peace would be maintained, but if unhappily it should not, the rights of Italy would be protected. Baron Blanc, Foreign Minister, described the earnest efforts made by Italy to establish a concert of all the Powers. The Porte, he said, will make a mistake if it supposed that it can temporize by raising a discussion about the past, and by seeking to prevent the Powers from affording naval protection to their pacific interests.

The Sultan is entirely in the hands of the Palace clique under Izzet Bey, and still refuses to grant the neccessary firmans for doubling the guardships of the Embassies. The Ministers are in constant attendance on His Majesty at the Palace.

The latest advices state that fresh disturbances have taken place at Erzeroum, in which twelve Armenians were killed.

Advices from Crete state that fighting has taken place near Canea, and that the insurgents have defeated the Turks, who lost forty in killed and wounded.

THE Queen in addressing a detachment of the Scots Guards at Windsor, prior to their departure for Ashanti, said she would follow their progress with interest and pray for their safety. Her Majesty wished them God-speed. Colonel Sir F. C. Scott and his staff have sailed for the West Coast of Africa. Prior to his departure he was interviewed at Liverpool by Reuter's representative, and said that, whether King Prempeh submits or not to the British demands, the expedition must go to Coomassie.

A choleraic disease has broken out at St. Petersburg, with fourteen cases and seven deaths in three days.

THE Chinese are negotiating with a German and a British syndicate for a loan to pay the next instalment of the Japanese indemnity.

GREAT Britain has proposed to the Brazilian Government to arbitrate regarding the possession of the Island of Trinidad.

THE *Novoe Vremya* states that Japan recognises the unconditional right of Russia to keep Corea and Manchuria within the sphere of her influence.

THE French Chamber of Deputies unanimously voted credits for increasing the Consulates in China. The police suddenly searched the houses of all the Socialist Deputies and leaders and impounded all party papers which they found. M. Berthelot, Foreign Minister, in the Chamber of Deputies, announced that it was the intention of the Government to enforce to the utmost its economic rights to Madagascar, which would henceforth be a French possession. He stated that while observing loyally its pledges towards foreigners, it had been decided to uphold the existing treaty, but to modify it somewhat, in order to remove any doubt regarding its meaning. The Chamber, after an excited debate regarding the blunders in connection with the expedition to Madagascar, approved of the conduct of the Ministry, 426 deputies voting in favour of it and 59 against.

M Jules Barthelemy Saint Hilaire and M. Alexandre Dumas are dead.

HER Majesty the Queen has conferred the honour of the Imperial Order of the Crown of India upon Lady George Hamilton.

THE trial on the second indictment in connection with the Liberator Building Society frauds has concluded. Jabez Balfour has been sentenced to seven years' penal servitude on the first indictment and seven years on the second, or 14 years in all. Defendants Brock and Theobald have been sentenced to nine months' and four months' imprisonment respectively.

THE Italian Budget Statement shows a surplus of eight million lire without any increase in taxation or national debt.

THE Egyptian Budget for 1896 shows a surplus of £630,000.

CARDS for the Viceroy's Levée, to be held at Government House, Calcutta, on the 16th of December, must be sent to the Aide-de-Camp in waiting not later than Wednesday, the 4th of December, 1895. We will remind gentlemen presenting others that they are required to be present themselves.

SIR Charles Elliott will be entertained tonight at St. Andrew's Dinner. Raja Benoy Krishna, of Raja Nabakissen's Street, has announced an Evening Party to do honour to His retiring Honor, from whom he received yesterday the patent of his new nobility.

IN a private letter dated Lahore, the 27th of November, we read—"The weather has just become cold, it was unusually warm four or five days ago. The sky is now overcast and it threatens rain."

IN Calcutta, with the close of November, it is not yet cold weather. The mortality from fever is very high.

A CORRESPONDENT writes :—

"*Reis* has been wrong in publishing that the 'Bickaneer Imperial Service Camel Corps' was the only one of its kind in India, after its inspection by the Viceroy at Futtehpur Sikri lately. There has been a very efficient camel corps of Bhurtpur for a long time, though not for Imperial service. I think it was organized by the late Chief after 1870, when he first received powers of administration, notably of the army at the outset. It might have been in existence before his time, as Bhurtpur has always been a military chiefship, but he certainly reorganized it with uniform, arms and accoutrements."

ON the 19th November, Raja Vishwanath Singh Bahadoor of Chhatarpur, Bundelkhand, Central India, was invested with the title of Maharaja by Captain Ramsay, Political Agent. There was a Durbar, the Political addressed the Maharaja, the *sanad* was read and handed over when the Maharaja replied. A feature of the Durbar was that the assembled Thakurs and the officials of the State, one after another, went up to the Political Agent, and each presented him as *nazar* a gold mohur which was touched and remitted. On behalf of the State were presented trays of embroidery and Benares cloth, an elephant, a horse, a country matchlock gun and a spear. The last two only were accepted. Was this honour specially done for the occasion, or has it been the practice of the State since the days of Sardar Sonah Sah? If an innovation, the new distinction is a dishonour to the Lord of the World.

THE death of Mr. H. W Foster, I.C.S., Registrar of the Madras High Court, is a painful one. He had just married in England and was on his way to Madras with his bride, when he suddenly died of heart disease in the train near Guntakul station on the Southern Marhatta Railway. Mrs. Foster had hardly realized her married state when she became a widow. How terrible the situation to a Hindu child wife who continues a widow for life!

BABU Poorno Chunder Shome, of the Subordinate Judicial Service, having retired on pension, is anxious to offer his services to the public in another capacity. He has obtained permission of the High Court to practise as a Pleader.

THE District Criminal Courts in Burma will no longer have the assistance of Public Prosecutors. The Chief Commissioner has accordingly reminded the Magistrates that their duty is "to ascertain the facts of the case" and not merely to content themselves with recording and weighing the evidence before them. In other words, the Magistrates must direct the prosecution and be both the Police and the Judge.

THE academic death, prescribed for Bengali children for possessing, after the first warning, a copy of a book suppressed for scurrilous attacks on the Government, is not so light an affair in England. Jurists, both barbarous and civilised, are agreed that children, like the king, can do no wrong. Those conversant with the *Mahabharata* know how the grim Judge of the Infernal regions, the mighty Yama himself, was hurled down from his palace and office and forced to take birth in the lowest of the four orders of human beings on the earth, for the punishment he had the foolishness to inflict on the Rishi Mandavya for an offence committed in childhood. Mandavya was a powerful ascetic, possessed of wealth of penances and fully competent to impose his will on Yama. The Indian Penal Code has exempted children from criminal liability, but there is nobody to notice the prank of a provincial Secretariat when, in its wisdom, it thinks fit to legislate by an executive order and create, in the very teeth of the Penal Code, not only a new offence, but provide for it the heaviest penalty. Clever as our Secretaries are, their knowledge of the law is neither extensive nor deep. One of them who may be taken as a fair specimen of the class, some years ago, surprised a colleague of his on the managing Board of a metropolitan Library by his unfamiliarity with English authors by no means unknown to the advanced students of Indian Colleges. He had not heard that the delightful philosophical egotist, Montaigne, the father of a new species of literature, the great exemplar of Addison and Steele and Johnson, had been Englished. Florio and Charles Cotton were names of no significance to him. The same official, on another occasion, stared at the mention of Jeffrey, the father of nineteenth century criticism, and enquired what he had written. Sydney Smith, in noticing an erroneous decision on poaching, recommended *Beccaria on Crimes and Punishments* to one of the greatest Judges of England. We may, without offending, recommend to the Secretariat a perusal of the judgment of Lord Camden in what is known as Shipley's case. Shipley was a young man of a respectable family. Possessed of talents and great freedom of thought, he had written some essays in which the good dons of his university discovered all manner of evil. They charged him with heresy, immorality, and what not, and convicted him in solemn conclave, without having granted him a hearing, and pronounced sentence of expulsion and academic death. If it were India, such sentence would have been irrevocable. But in England no one is above the law. Shipley appealed to the Lord Chancellor and keeper of the Great Seal as representing the Sovereign in his capacity of visitor of the College. It is a domestic tribunal, but the forms provided by the wisdom of ages for ensuring correctness of decisions prevail in it in full force. Lord Camden set aside the sentence of the learned dons and read them a sharp lecture for presuming to judge a fellow man without having given him an opportunity for defence. The biographer of Lord Camden was at some pains for obtaining a copy of that judgment and preserving it for future reference. Lord Campbell says that to the end of his life, the great Chancellor regarded it with approbation. The following extracts from the precious deliverance may be read with interest and delight by all whose minds have not been seared by an unchecked and long practice of official tyranny.

"The appellant, Shipley, a young man at the University, had been expelled from his College for the supposed offence of publishing a libel, aggravated, as his accusers and judges chose to say, by his being guilty of "general immorality." The College being a royal foundation, he appealed to the King, as Visitor. The appeal was heard by Lord Camden, Lord Chancellor, who said :—

'The jurisdiction is exercised in the right of the King, as Visitor. It is, in its nature, very peculiar. It is a despotism uncontrolled, and without appeal ; the only one of its kind which is known in this Kingdom.

'I contemplate with pleasure so numerous an assembly, as there is no restraint upon the Visitor but his own character.

* * * *

'Not considering here the import of the evidence, I shall pronounce that Mr. Shipley was condemned unheard, and without such previous trial as natural justice required. Whether my fact was proved against him or no, is not, in this view of the subject, material. Such a mode of proceeding is never to be be justified or allowed by a Judge. It is a natural principle of justice engraved upon the heart—not acquired by book-learning—that no one is to be condemned unheard.

* * * *

'I could wish that persons who are intrusted, for ingenuous purposes, with a despotic power over youth, would understand the first principles of justice. Were it a case of ordinary discipline, or of customary punishment, I should, in this domestic forum, turn a very deaf ear to complaint, though, as representing the royal visitor, I can reverse any act. I should wish, in all such cases, to leave the governors of a college almost absolute. But in the case of expulsion, I wish for temper, and I must have it, for I must claim it. That punishment is extreme. It is capital. It inflicts academic death.

An independent member of a College is, by this mark upon him, sent home degraded, stript of his degrees, and of advantages in certain professions. He comes into the world introduced by odium of character. I should expect that a proceeding, to be attended with such consequences, should be regularly instituted, should be conducted with temper, should be supported by solid proof, and be satisfactory to all reasonable minds."

YESTERDAY, there was a Durbar at Belvedere. It was the last of Sir Charles Elliott's. The occasion was, as the card of invitation, printed in gold probably to lend additional dignity to the ceremony but unreadable, especially at night, says, "the investiture of certain gentlemen on whom titles have been conferred by His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor-General of India." The card contained the name of the block and the number of the seat set apart for the invited. It, however, gave no plan of the durbar hall for you to know where your seat was. It was misleading in another way, showing no indication of all that was done at the Durbar. A surprise was reserved for the visitors. The gentlemen invested, and they are no more for the titles conferred, are

1. Rajah Banaya Krishna Deb, of Sovabazar, Calcutta.
2. Raja Norendro Lall Khan, of Narojole in Midnapur.
3. Shams-ul-Ulma Maulvi Muhammad Hahadad, of Calcutta.
4. Moulvi Sayid Nasiruddin Ahmed Khan Bahadur, of Bihar.
5. Rai Sitya Kinkur Sen Bahadur, Government Pleader, Burdwan.
6. Rai Hari Krishna Mazumdar Bahadur, of Islampur in Murshidabad.
7. Rai Koilas Chunder Bose Bahadur, of Calcutta.
8. Rai Madhab Chunder Roy Bahadur, of Calcutta.
9. Rai Brahma Mohun Mullick Bahadur, of Hughli.

The proceedings, after the march of the Lieutenant-Governor preceded by Chopdars and his aide-de-camp and followed by his Private Secretary and Secretaries and Under-Secretaries to the Government of Bengal, opened not with conferment of the sanads of Indian titles, but with another and different matter in which His Honor has no jurisdiction. The programme even as published in the *Englishman* of the previous morning makes no allusion to it, verifying the truth of our remark. The first to be introduced to the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal in Durbar, Sir Charles Elliott sat in no other capacity, was the Hon'ble Rameswar Prosad Sing Bahadoor of Gidhour robed as a Knight Commander of the Indian Empire. Two warrants were read by the Chief Secretary, one appointing him a Knight and the other dispensing with personal investiture, then the Lieutenant-Governor pinned the star on the Knight's breast and addressed him. The warrant itself gives and grants unto Sir Rameswar "full power and authority to wear and use upon the left side of his upper vestment the Star and also to wear and use the Riband and Badge appertaining unto a Knight Commander." It has been explained that the Maharaja was anxious to receive his new honour at the hands of Sir Charles. That can hardly justify the part assumed by Sir Charles Elliott. He was only to be the bearer of the warrants, the Insignia and the Badge, but he chose to act the Grand Master as he did, his Chief Secretary abetting the illegality and the other Knights and Companions of the Order present allowing it unprotested. Khan Bahadur Abdul Jubbar was similarly invested with the insignia of a Companion of the same Order, and eulogised for his services to the Government which would not make him Inspector-General of Registration that he might retire as such. The holders of Indian titles for whom the Durbar was held next claimed the Lieutenant-Governor's attention. The sanads were handed over. The two Rajas were addressed to separately and the rest disposed of *en masse*.

AT the Wanowrie rifle range, Poona, on the morning of November 18, a Sepoy of the 7th Bombay Infantry ran amuck, and killed four men including himself. After firing from 200 yards, while advancing to 300, he commenced to run wildly about, threatened an ex-Subidar-Major of his own regiment—a retired pensioner—who had sauntered up to the range, and shot him dead with the loaded rifle, when the Hawildar of the regiment went forward to seize him. He too was fired at and killed instantly. Then the infuriate man of war began to fire indiscriminately. It was now the turn of Lieutenant Riddell, of the 4th Bombay Rifles, who was acting for the range officer, to attempt the arrest and be killed. Finding him advance, the Sepoy warned the Captain not to come near him. To prevent further mischief, the officer tried to approach when he received a shot in his arm. Another desperate struggle with the wounded arm, and another shot, at which the Captain fell. The Sepoy then ran 300 yards, reloaded his rifle for his own destruction, took off his boots, then took his own life. He had been a Jemadar and been reduced to a Sepoy, for which he bore a grudge against the two native officers he killed. The man had evidently been smarting under the injustice as he took it. He had no intention of killing the European officer but was driven to the deed in the madness of the hour; and when he found that he had committed a wrong, he punished himself and went the way of all his victims. The tragedy is a warning to all to be just and to administer justice in a way that it may not be felt as an injustice. Of late, are not such instances multiplying? The Sepoy was a Sikh by religion. What could be the meaning of his taking off the boots? Was it, as since reported, only to facilitate the act of self destruction by holding his implement more tightly, or was it the desire of freeing himself from a contaminating substance at the last moment when bent upon making the voyage to eternity?

TUESDAY last, Sir Charles Elliott, accompanied by his Private Secretary, went to Seebpore for inspecting the new bridge at Shalimar. The Magistrate of Howrah, Mr. Grierson, was in attendance, with Babu Gopal Lal Seal who has met the entire cost of the construction coming up to Rs. 30,000. Sir Charles expressed satisfaction at the work and thanked the donor in the name of the local public. This is a fair start. We hope Babu Seal will soon recover lost ground.

THE *Sulav Samik*, a metropolitan Bengali daily, invites attention to what it regards a jobbery in the Controller's branch of the Postal Department. A Superintendent drawing Rs. 200 has been promoted, over the heads of many seniors, to officiate in a post of Rs. 900. It is not the appointment so much that the *Samik* objects to as the conduct of the officer favoured. Himself unfamiliar with his duties, he inflicts fines for trivial errors. Vexed at the delay of an old clerk in bringing up certain records, this model officer—the favourite of Mr. W. H. Sandell, the Controller, ordered the man to be dragged before him by the ear. The vernacular press is, of course, scurrilous and deals in scandals and untruths. The following, however, from the same article that charges Mr. Kelly, for that is the name of the Superintendent, may be read with interest by those who wish to form a correct opinion of the character of that press.

"If thanks are to be given for the excellent arrangements of the Saving Banks Department of the Post office, these are due to Messrs Dillon and Craddock and Babu Durga Charan Dass. It is in consequence of the intelligence and unwearied exertions of these three officers that the business of the Saving Banks Department came to be conducted so well. * * * Mr. Coldman never reproved any clerk for any error. He used to say that work can never be satisfactorily

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The Indian Association for the Cultivation of Science.

210, Bow Bazar Street, Calcutta.

(Session 1895-96.)

Lecture by Babu Rum Chunder Datta, F.C.S., on Monday, the 2nd Dec. at 4.15 P.M., *Subject:* Carbo-Hydrates, Glucosides and Alkaloids.

Lecture by Dr. D. N. Chatterjee, B.A., M.B., C.M., on Tuesday, the 3rd Inst., at 6 to 8 P.M. *Subject:* Histology—Liver; Physiology—Alimentation.

Lecture by Babu Rajendra Nath Chatterjee, M.A., on Wednesday the 4th Inst., at 6.30 P.M. *Subject:* Light—its nature and mode of Propagation.

Lecture by Dr. Nilratan Sirkar, M.A., M.D., on Thursday, the 5th Inst., at 6 to 7 P.M. *Subject:* Zoology—The Flat worms.

Lecture by Dr. Mahendra Lal Sircar, on Thursday, the 5th Inst., at 4-30 P.M. *Subject:* Galvanometer. Action of currents upon each other.

Lecture by Dr. Nilratan Sirkar, M.A., M.D., on Saturday, the 7th Inst., at 6 to 7 P.M. *Subject:* Chemical Physiology—Carbo-Hydrates.

Admission Fee, Rs. 4 for Physics, and Rs. 4 for Chemistry; Rs. 6 for both Physics and Chemistry; Rs. 4 for Physiology; Rs. 4 for General Biology; Rs. 6 for complete course of Physiology and Biology. The charge for a single lecture is 4 Annas.

MAHENDRA LAL SIRCAR, M.D.,
November 30, 1895. *Honorary Secretary.*

exacted by reproof and fines, that kindness can always do more than punishment for trivial mistakes. Messrs. Goldman and Dillon were men with godlike hearts. Their kindness for subordinates and the devotion and love they inspired, made work a pleasure with every clerk. There is not a clerk that does not shed tears at the mention of these names. Mr. Goldman was really a man made of gold."

Does this not support Sir Richard Garth's estimate of the native press? Fair praise strongs a humble heart to light and is never slow to be thankful for small acts of kindness shown by officials in power. It is only those whose misdeeds are dragged to light of day that speak ill of it and desire its summary suppression.

MR. Radice, well known for vigour beyond the law, has this time signalised himself by writing an "amended judgment" in a case of disputed possession, six days after he had ceased to be the Joint Magistrate of Mymensing. The High Court, in the exercise of its Criminal appellate jurisdiction, says,—"The order of this Court was that the Joint Magistrate of Mymensing was to deal with the case. Mr. Radice at the time he wrote this judgment had no more power to write it or do any other work as Joint Magistrate of Mymensing than any private individual. His judgment, therefore, is not a document which can be acted upon." The case has, accordingly, been sent back for being disposed of "by the Joint Magistrate of Mymensing, whoever he may be." How long will Mr. Radice be allowed to play pranks before high heaven? Sir Charles Elliott, however, it is believed, regards every exhibition of vigour beyond the law with satisfaction if that vigour touches only the dark subjects of the crown.

REIS & RAYYET.

Saturday, November 30, 1895.

TITULAR DISTINCTIONS IN INDIA.

In former days there were no periodical issues of what is now called the Honors' List. It is now Gazetted twice a year with great regularity. It is an innovation which time has brought in its train. The practice is, no doubt, deserving of praise, of rewarding honourable and accomplished, and even wealthy, members of society for enlightenment and public munificence, as also servants of the State for valuable services rendered to the Sovereign. A break, however, is noticeable in the policy that used to regulate the bestowal of honours. During the early days of British rule, titles were never conferred after the manner of the present times. Then, instead of any new titles, only such as were enjoyed, by courtesy or under the sanction of the old Mussulman Government, by scions of the landed aristocracy were recognised. Generally, the recognition took place on the succession of the eldest member of the house to the headship of the family. In Bengal, houses like those of Burdwan, Bunwaribad (Beerbhoom), Bettiah, Hutwa, Doomraon, Shapur (Champarun), Pachete (Manbhoom), Gangpore (Chota-Nagpur), Bhookoylash (24 Pergunas), all enjoyed the respective titles of their families, from Maharajadhiraj, Ameer-ul Mook, Nizamut-ud-Dowlah, to Maharaja and Raja Bahadur. None of these honorific distinctions was created by the British Government. Originally bestowed by the Mussulman Government, they were inherited by the eldest members of the houses on their succession to the family estate. The British had the wisdom to recognise them when new successors came in. Among members of untitled houses the first recipient of honour from the present rulers was Nobokissen who had rendered valuable services in the early days of the East India Company. Nobokissen's family still enjoys the honour as a hereditary one. In the line of Sir Raja Radha Kant Deb Bahadur, the title of Raja Bahadur has also been hereditary. In that of Kally Kissen, when the title was conferred on his son, Harendra Krishna, in 1874, it was considered to be hereditary, although titles in India could not be so under the resolution of the Government of India, in the Foreign Department, of May 1820, and according to the sense of the despatch from Lord Canning, dated December 1859, to the Secretary of State. If we mistake not, when the title of Maharaja Bahadur was conferred on the successor of Maharaja Mahatap Chand Bahadur of Burdwan during the administration of Sir Ashley Eden, the Bengal Government, in recommending the bestowal, urged on the Government of India that it should not be hereditary. If such was the intention of Government in the case of a landed house like Burdwan, it is a strong precedent against those new men who having obtained a title aspire to perpetuate it in their families. Before the mutiny, titles were very sparingly conferred. The descendants of Dewan Gunga Govind Sing were for many years without any titular distinction. Pratap Narain Sing did not obtain the stamp of aristocracy before 1854, although Paikpara was one of the biggest and most important houses in metropolitan Bengal.

The mutiny brought about a change in the policy of title-giving as of many other measures of administration. The British Government had to reward those that had rendered invaluable services during the dark days of the Sepoy rebellion. A perfect shower of honors was poured by the first Viceroy of the Crown. From that time a new disease has appeared in the country, called the title-fever. It has spread all over the land. A large number of persons has been attacked by it. In their struggle for honorific distinctions, they assume virtues which they have not. The help is sought of the inferior newspapers of the country. The hard-earned money of stingy ancestors is freely spent, the chief object being to win the good will of the District executive. In this way, many works of public utility have been given to the country. Schools and hospitals have been founded or subsidised. New roads and canals have been laid and excavated. The very Zoological gardens of Government have received accessions in the form of either new buildings for the shelter of old fauna or new specimens added to the collections. When the Orissa famine made its appearance, one of the Calcutta Baboos fed a certain number of beggars. He was, for this, recommended for the title of Raja Bahadur, in the name of the Lieutenant-Governor who had then left the country, by the Secretary who was an intimate friend of the Baboo. It was urged on his behalf that he was closely related to one that had been made a Raja Bahadur, so that there was no chance of the distinction being lowered in the public estimation. Thus was his admission facilitated into the new order of nobility created by the Government. It should be noted, however, that the gentleman in question has taken the lead in the town in the matter of munificence to the hungry poor. More than five hundred persons of both sexes and all ages are still fed by his heirs every day. The instances are many of other admissions into the titled aristocracy of persons that distinguished themselves by liberal expenditure on the occasion of the Orissa and the later famines that have visited the country. Indeed, it was since the Orissa famine that the flood gates of title have been opened, and every one can aspire to some sort of distinction by only creating an interest with the District officers, worth being only a secondary consideration. It is high

time some restrictions were placed on conferring titles as on the bestowal of public appointments. It is to be regretted that several persons have been admitted into the rank of Raja or Nawab who ought not to have been admitted for more than one reason. A foreign Government, however, that is not in touch with the people, can hardly be blamed for errors of the kind.

Of late, public munificence has come to be regarded as the sole qualification for admission into the titled aristocracy. By this is meant liberal contributions in behalf of the fads of officials in power. Lady Dufferin's fund has been the occasion of the making of many Rajas and Nawabs. The Lowis Sanitarium at Darjeeling, a really useful institution, has made one or two. The Howrah Town Hall has given us some Rai Bahadurs. Even a benefaction for housing a little school at Calcutta named after a Secretary to the local Government, promises to give us a Maharaja unless the superior authorities scrutinize the recommendation with care. Of schools there was already a fungus growth in the metropolis, so that the one founded and christened after the Secretary could scarcely be regarded as needed. The benefaction, again, has been guarded by a clause about reversion of the gift to the donor or his heirs in case the institution comes to a demise. But Secretaries are not so big as Lieutenants of Provinces and they are thankful for small mercies.

The procedure of Raja-making is very simple. The District officer must report a person favourably. One must cultivate friendly relations with him if ambitious of being a titled subject. There are hundreds of ways by which to ingratiate oneself into the good graces of the District celestial. He has his fads, and one need only contribute liberally for their accomplishment. The next deity to be gratified is, of course, the Divisional Commissioner. That task, however, is not so difficult. Partly, the District officer takes it upon himself to smooth the path. But if there is any obstruction, the District officer advises the aspirant as to what he should do. The Commissioner's acquiescence being secured, the rest is easy walking. The local Governments are bound to report favourably on that has been strongly recommended by the Divisional Commissioner. The recommendations of the local Governments go up to the Foreign office. The Viceroy is himself his Foreign Minister; so that it is the Viceroy who, in consultation with his Private Secretary, does the rest, that is, orders the inclusion of the candidate's name in the Honors List. Both the Viceroy and the Private Secretary have very little personal knowledge of the individuals honoured. But the absence of personal knowledge is no bar in such a case. A Kumar whom the Viceroy hesitated to grant a private interview for fear of opening the door wide, was immediately Gazetted a Raja. The language of the recommendations by the local Governments is carefully considered. Very generally, clever Secretaries win the day. If the Chief Secretary to the Bengal Government can manage to draft a few sentences of power, that is, with a more eloquent ring than his confreres of the N.-W. Provinces or Madras or Bombay, the Bengal man is sure to be preferred to those of the other Provinces. Altogether, it is a question of word-painting. There is one estimable feature in the procedure, and that is that no Secretary, or Lieutenant-Governor, or Governor, is allowed to interfere with the choice by personal solicitations of any kind, after the report has gone up to the Viceroy. In fact, none of them has the means to know who among the reported batches will succeed unless informed by the Viceroy's Private Secretary.

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THE SPLIT IN THE CONGRESS CAMP.

THE DISPUTE OVER THE PAVILION.

The contention at Poona regarding the use of the Congress pavilion, after the Congress, for the Social Conference, is not the fruitless squabble that philosophic indifference may choose to take it. Both sides are in earnest, and when both sides have so many intelligent men to lead them, the dispute demands a thorough examination. The Mahratta Brahmans, who are unwilling to place the pavilion at the disposal of the Social reformers, have voiced the sentiments of a large class. Managed as the Social Conference is, its resolutions, they maintain, are not worth the paper on which they are written, so far as the main body of the people is concerned. The reformers, whatever their reputation for intelligence and culture, are men of little or no social influence. They have, it is urged, broken with that society which they seek to reform. They are certainly at liberty to meet together, denounce the customs of orthodox society by argumentative speeches, and record their resolutions on paper for the use, as their opponents would say, of philanthropists in England. What the opposition wants is that they should not bring the Congress, which is a political institution, into disrepute with the main body of the people. The use of the Congress pavilion for ventilating social questions, it is feared, is very likely to make the Congress itself unpopular in the eyes of orthodox society by connecting it even vaguely with a movement against the existing order of things. Hindu Society is essentially conservative. It has set its face against widow-marriage. The exertions of of Indian philanthropists in that direction, have not borne a bequate fruit. Considering the money and the energy spent, the result achieved is scarcely calculable. Even if the reformers be held to have the best of the argument in their favour, that has served them little. Right or wrong, the legislation of the Rishis, as understood by the country in general, is not likely to be soon given up. Those, therefore, that have not yet attained the degree of culture involved in indulgence of forbidden food and drink, in marrying daughters and sisters out of their own orders, in providing husbands for their widowed kinswomen, and in making journeys to foreign lands under circumstances incompatible with the observance of caste rules, shrink to take any step that may confound the Congress with a movement against religion and caste. India, they argue, wants many things. The programme of the Congress is a political and not a social one. There is nothing to prevent men who have not broken with religion and caste from meeting those who have, on the common platform of political reform. The Hindu, observing the externals of his

faith—adoring his sacred fire and saying his twilight and midday prayers after the manner of his Vedic ancestors, feels no hesitation in working with any number of denationalised members of his own race, or, for that matter, with even Mussulmans and Englishmen, for winning new liberties for his country from the reluctant hands of his rulers. He feels that if he is to hope for success, he must enlist in his cause all comers irrespective of their dress, surroundings, or nationality. All differences may be sunk for accomplishing the common design. He is even willing, for the sake of the cause, to surrender himself, if need be, to the lead of those who differ from him in social customs and religion. He cannot, however, allow that his temporary disregard of all differences for a particular purpose should be availed of by those with whom he mixes, for making it appear that he means more than he actually does. The liberal electorate, he urges with great plausibility, comprising Christians of all denominations, of an English borough, may meet together as brethren for electing a liberal member for Parliament. But the electors, after their legitimate proceedings are over, can hardly allow any section of theirs to exhibit in the same place theological rancour against the rest of the people. A Methodist may combine with an Episcopalian, and both with a Calvinist or Lutheran, for taking into consideration the intelligence of a destructive famine in an Indian province. But can the Methodist and the Episcopalian quietly permit the same organisation that has called the meeting to the Calvinist or Lutheran for denouncing Methodism and Episcopacy? If this is allowed, will not future meetings be impossible when called for common ends? Even this is the situation at Poona as understood by the orthodox section of that town. They are unwilling to permit the organisation that calls the Congress from being availed of by a portion of the Congressists for the exhibition of rancour against their customs and religion.

It is not very clear why the promoters of the Social Conference should be so eager for the Congress pavilion. As a matter of fact, the number of delegates actually taking apart in the Conference is very small, the main body having nothing to do with it. The few that discuss social reform and record their resolutions, may very well afford to meet on a different occasion and in a different place. Elaborate arrangements are scarcely needed for bringing them together or for lodging them. They are, again, men of note who have achieved success in their respective professions It cannot inconvenience them much or even at all, if they have to assemble a second time at a different place. Their persistence creates a very unfavourable impression. It would seem that unwilling to work single-handed as they have always done, little recking the abuse daily showered on their heads by ignorance and faction, they wish to act under new auspices, expecting prestige and influence from the place and occasion of their meeting. They attach importance to the subject before them. To publish their deliberations widely and get as many converts as possible, are motives not ignoble. Excluding the few fanatical busybodies that now and then invoke the aid of legislation, with the generality of them even these are the only approved means of success. They must educate Indian opinion. To thrust, however, their company upon men shrinking from that honour, is not very honourable. The promoters of the Conference, it is said, wish to stand or fall by a plebiscitum of all the standing Congress committees in India. They are unwilling to give way at the opposition of the Poona Committee, Regrettable as the dispute is in consequence of the angry feelings it has already excited, the question, however, should be settled once for all.

After the above was in type, intelligence reaches us of the dispute having ended. The promoters of the Conference will not ask for the loan of the Congress pavilion.

THE PILGRIM SHIPS ACT.

Lord Elgin has extricated himself from a difficult position. Six weeks ago we called attention to the outcry in the Indian Press, European and Native, against the Pilgrim Ships Bill, and to the memorial in which the Bombay Mussulmans had formally embodied their protest. That protest amounted to a declaration that the British Government was, in spite of the Queen's solemn pledges, interfering with the religious observances of the people, and was converting pilgrimage, which forms a spiritual obligation on all Mahomedans who can accomplish it, into a luxury for the rich alone. The objectors also pointed out that the Viceroy, by the proposed Pilgrim Tax for the benefit of Turkey, was being made a catspaw for levying one of the most odious imposts known to the East. Lord Elgin's difficulty was intensified by the two facts that the Bill contained provisions which even the Minister in charge of it could not defend, and that it was the result of a compulsion which he could not with propriety avow.

The normal process of legislation in India is simple and effective. A provincial Government finds that some class of the community is suffering from grievances, or has developed new conditions with which the existing law fails to deal. It accordingly applies to the Government of India for legislation. The Supreme Government in its executive capacity scrutinizes the alleged necessity for a new law, carefully testing the evidence in correspondence with the provincial Government which has moved in the matter, and with other of the local administrations in which the same problem is likely to arise. If satisfied of the necessity the Supreme Government then proceeds in its legislative capacity to bring in a Bill. In doing so it places before the Legislature and the Indian public a detailed history of the steps taken to ascertain that the proposed measure has its origin in the actual wants of the people, and that it really meets those wants. The Legislative Council then refers the Bill for the criticism of the provincial Governments, or of those of them whose population can possibly be affected by its provisions. Various public bodies and recognized associations throughout India are also consulted. A select committee of the Legislative Council goes *de novo* through the whole evidence thus collected, and, if needful, modifies the Bill so as to bring it into absolute accord with the facts. Any member of the Legislature who thinks that this has not been thoroughly done, or who suspects that the true history of the measure has not been disclosed, gets an opportunity for very damaging criticism at the session of Council held to pass the Bill into law.

The history of the Pilgrim Ships Act exhibits the antithesis of this process. The indignation which it excited and the *fiasco* in which it has ended were due not to the inherent folly of its proposals alone, but also to the conviction throughout India that those proposals were not made in the interests of the population to be affected by them. A convention sat in Paris, at which India was very inadequately represented, to consider the means for arresting the spread of cholera from Arabia to Europe. Under pressure from the Foreign Office in London, a draft measure was sent out to India to give effect to the proposals of the Paris convention---some of them ludicrously unsuitable to Indian Mahomedan pilgrims. As Indian pilgrimage to Arabia had already been regulated by a careful series of enactments based upon the local facts, fresh legislation was required if the existing law were to be superseded by the doctrinaire devices of the Paris convention. Government found it impossible to bring the devices before the Indian Legislature without exciting a popular agitation and courting a public defeat. The Indian Government accordingly remonstrated with the Secretary of State against the dangerous and unjust provisions of the Bill. Its remonstrance, while temperate in tone, was convincing in its arguments. It was supported, we understand unanimously supported by the Secretary of State's own Council at Westminster. But the late Ministry was then tottering to its fall, and as an easy prey to every form of pressure. Mr. Fowler, to his honour be it recorded, had, in the vigorous days of the Ministry, more than once resisted such pressure. He now unfortunately yielded to influence of an unusual kind, of which we would speak with reserve. Turning a deaf ear to the remonstrances of the responsible Indian Govern-

ment, he disregarded also the opinions of his own Council, and despatched to India a mandate for immediate legislation. We do not care to reproduce the adjectives of indignation with which that mandate has been denounced by the Indian Mussulmans and by the whole Indian Press.

The embarrassments of the Indian Government were further increased by the attitude of Turkey. The Government of India which is by far the largest Mussulman Power in the world, was being spurred on by imperious orders from home to a course of action certain to arouse widespread and possibly fanatical discontent among its Mahomedan subjects. Meanwhile the Ottoman Sultan, who has pretensions of being the Commander of the Faithful, looked on with lazy indifference and enjoyed the prospect of the British Government embroiling itself with its 57 millions of Mussulmans. It was stated that the Sultan had not even ratified the proposals of the Paris convention which were to be forced down the throats of the Indian Mahomedans, and that there was little likelihood of their ever being really carried out by his officers. Fortunately, while the Indian Government was struggling at its distasteful and almost impossible task, a change of Ministry took place in England. Lord George Hamilton, with chivalrous consideration towards his predecessor, and with that regard for the continuity of government on which Lord Salisbury laid stress at Watford last week, hesitated to intervene. But the importance of the case, and the protests and remonstrances from India, compelled him to go into the matter. The pressure upon the Indian Government was removed, and Lord Elgin was left to find his way out as best he could from the false position into which he had been driven.

His Home Minister and the Select Committee of the Legislative Council proceeded scientifically to draw the teeth and cut the claws of the Bill. Having rendered it comparatively harmless, they further deprived it of effective vigour by turning it into "an enabling" Act. That is to say, the law was not to come into force until the Governor-General thought fit, and he received powers to recast some of its most important rules. We have said that the process by which the Pilgrim Ships Bill was evolved was not in accordance with the normal method of Indian legislation. A new Indian law is ordinarily the outcome of the local needs of an Indian community. It is arrived at by a slow inductive process, during which the evidence for the necessity of the measure is scrutinized, first by the Government of India in its executive capacity, and then by the Select Committee of the Legislative Council. Each step in its history is frankly disclosed to the Indian Legislature. The Pilgrim Ships Bill did not even pretend to be based upon the wants of the Indian population. Instead of being arrived at by a slow inductive process in India it was avowedly the result of *à priori* conclusions arrived at on the other side of the globe. So far from its detailed history being openly stated to the Legislative Council, every member knew that there had been secret influences at work.

In thus experimenting on the forbearance of the Indian Legislature we play with edged tools. The Act of Parliament passed during Lord Salisbury's last Ministry gave to the Indian Legislative Council powers which it did not before possess. It is dangerous to treat a Legislature which has become a reality as if it were a sham. Occasions may arise, for example, on great questions of finance, when the Indian Legislature must accept the deliberate policy of the British nation. But the very fact that the Indian constitution is liable from time to time to such tension makes it the more unwise to subject it to needless strain.—*The Times.*

REMINISCENCES OF DR SAMBHU C. MOOKERJEE

BY ONE WHO KNEW HIM.

(Concluded from page 536.)

THUS Anglo-Indian journalists are not the men likely ever to truly appreciate Sambhu Chunder or his writings and if their brief obituary notices of this "Prince of Indian Journalists" contain a word or two of appreciation of his many merits, that is but indicative of the feeble reawakening of a smothered and diseased conscience. It would not be well or graceful, however, not to mention in this connection that the late Robert Knight fully recognized the worth of Sambhu Chunder and the *Statesman* used to contain every now and again long and eloquent leading articles in appreciation of writings in *Reis* and *Rayyet* which Mr. Knight used to call a truly wonderful organ. Mr. Knight and Sambhu Chunder were afterwards friends and Mr. Knight considered it an honour to enjoy his friend's company. So highly did Mr. Knight estimate Sambhu Chunder's literary attainments that on one occasion Sambhu Chunder having asked him about something of ancient English custom Mr. Knight exclaimed "You make me blush, Dr. Mookerjee. What you do not know, I am not likely at all ever to know." "But no," said Sambhu Chunder, "really you think too much of me, Mr. Knight. It is all your kindness, but I do not deserve it. You are an Englishman of high culture and ripe scholarship. How am I likely to know even half as much as you do." "No, no, Doctor, don't you try to try your modesty upon me. I know a bit of what you are and what you know. Why, Doctor, you have read all the books I have read. Then you have read books I have only heard the names of, but never read. And then you seem to have read books I have not even heard of. This is no empty compliment, Doctor, your writings betray all I say."

Turning to the members of the Anglo-Native journalism in Bengal, we do not know what to say. They have given evidence of an unworthy spirit in reference to Doctor Sambhu Chunder's death which has given us very deep pain. How Sambhu Chunder has deserved only a dozen lines and even less of notice on his death is what passes our comprehension. If the politics of Sambhu Chunder and those of other native journalists were at the antipodes, as one of our contemporaries expresses it, the latter might have criticised his politics at length along with recording other brilliant points in Sambhu Chunder's character and personality which were more or less known to them. But it is useless arguing in this strain with men who have acted in this connection with a purpose. What that purpose may be, we have no inclination to examine. The fact of the matter is that the selfish spirit which at present pervades journalism in Bengal has developed a heartlessness which seems to have choked the expression of any real feeling of magnanimity, or even a tolerably keen sense of justice. The words of Mr. Malabari the Editor of the *Indian Spectator* are still ringing in our ears. On the first occasion that a friend of ours met him, he asked in course of conversation, if Dr. Sambhu Chunder was truly appreciated by his own countrymen in Bengal, and when our friend said that he was not so much appreciated as he ought to be, Mr. Malabari's surprise knew no bounds. "What, Sir!" exclaimed the accomplished journalist, "do you mean to say you Bengalee Babus who boast of your education so much fail to appreciate that brilliant man of *Reis and Rayyet*? This fact only shows that Bengal is not a whit more advanced than Bombay. Why, Sir, if Sambhu Chunder was born in Bombay, he would have been simply worshipped. There is none like him in all India, I assure you. He is a man whom we can set against the whole West, mind you, in any literary controversy. He is one of our invaluable ornaments—an ornament of which all India may well be proud. Just send him over here if you can somehow, my friend, and we will show you what reception we greet him with!" But Mr. Malabari forgot that Bengal was not liberal-minded Bombay, but only self-seeking Bengal and that even this self-seeking is as much a vice in ordinary mortals as in our pretentious patriots and tall-talking public teachers. Can any of our high-stepping public men or high-sounding publicists lay his hand upon his heart and say that his conscience is as clear as was Sambhu Chunder's? Well, we need not anticipate the right answer. Can any of our patriots say that his criticism of governmental measures and policy was as fearless and hard-hitting as was Sambhu Chunder's? No, even in his greatest mistakes, Sambhu Chunder could never be charged by any sane man with dishonesty or acting against his conscience. So pronounced indeed, were his unsullied honesty and conscientiousness that nobody dared ever call them in question. Mistakes, of course, he had many, because he was human, but his writings even under such mistaken views betrayed a simplicity of heart and honesty of mind which were truly praiseworthy. His unhappy support of the Age of Consent Bill was a source of great pain to us as we had to range ourselves against his side. But we believed it then as we believe it still, that he was wheedled into assuming that attitude by men who had personal interest in supporting the Government. His health was always bad and grew at times worse and this was the opportunity snatched to cloud his usually clear vision. The supporters of the governmental policy were far from the representative and the accession into their ranks of Dr. Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee invested their ignoble cause with the only respectability it could boast of.

Dr. Sambhu Chunder had no sympathy for the National Congress movement, not because he had no sympathy with the aspirations of his countrymen to secure a larger share in the administration of their own country, not because he did not wish the wrongs of his countrymen to be righted. Nothing was farther from his mind. The reason of his keeping aloof from the Congress movement was to be found in another quarter. A Conservative by birth and instincts, he hated all Radical notions. He had no patience for English Radical theories or their bad imitations by his own countrymen, theories which sought to place the patrician on the same footing with the plebeian, to make the prince and the peasant of one and the same rank. The very idea of such an act was, to him, a violation of an All-wise God's dispensation who has created man and beast, buds and trees, all at the same time. As no two men can be found to be equal in any respect, no two men can claim to share equal rank or equal privileges. Conceived in diversity, neither the creation nor the laws of the world can bestow equality on all created beings. The claim of the peasant to be considered equal with the prince is simple blasphemy. Imbued with these solid ideas, he always discountenanced such absurd notions and theories. He had no love, therefore, for the system of competitive examination, the result of which was that even

a shoemaker's son would one day sit in judgment over the highest patrician in the country. Nor had he much sincere regard for modern constitutional Government with its system of election by sheer dint of votes. Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee was much too conservative and too wise a philosopher to accept the adoption of such ideas for the amelioration of his own country and his countrymen whose loyalty is in their blood and whose very blood cries out for a king to follow, obey, worship and die for. And yet none felt more keenly the grievances of his countrymen in respect of their legitimate claim to higher appointments under the State. But he did not think that the method of the National Congress was the right method to demand the fulfilment of their aspirations.

But it is upon the personal and private virtues of Dr. Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee that the curiosity of the future biographer of Bengal's worthy sons will be proud to dilate. Dr. Mookerjee at home would supply him with a theme of almost romantic interest. Upstairs the parlour house of the Wellington Square Dutt family is a small room which is furnished more with an eye to usefulness than ornamentation, and yet it was the best ornamented Editor's sanctum in all Calcutta. Here in this room would sit Dr. Sambhu Chunder---its best ornament, lighting up the room and furniture with his intellectual halo. None entered this room without feeling the influence of his charming presence, for none who entered it set his eyes upon him without being filled with awe which hedges in true greatness. Nor was this awe of the sublime unmixed with the loveliness of the beautiful. In fact, the sublime and the beautiful vied with each other in his character and the internal struggle expressed itself in his external appearance. But Sambhu Chunder's singularly intellectual qualifications were set off by his handsome personal features. There was a harmonious blending of internal and external beauties in his personality which altogether formed an attraction that was too powerful for one who came in personal contact with him to resist. His character was in his face inscribed in God's own hand. His large eyes out of which twinkled forth the mild light of kindness and sincerity, his regular nose, his well-formed mouth and well-rounded chin crowned with his ample forehead and head of flowing hair which shaded and set off the effect of his olive complexion, joined to a well-proportioned size, body and limbs were no mean contribution to the attractions of his personality. Everything with Sambhu Chunder was an art, speech or thought or action, an art which was the outward expression, as he would say, of the science of truth. Philosopher from his birth, he regarded nothing however trivial, with a light heart. Whole-hearted to the backbone, he never believed in indifference to any thing in God's creation. If his movements were artistic, from a gentle wave of the hand to a slight toss of the head, it was the result of a mental culture and an intellectual discipline which sought to restore man to his natural divinity. His conception of what a man should be was far too idealistic for a work-a-day world to appreciate.

But these were only the outward signs of Dr. Mookerjee's highly developed qualities of head and heart. Few men in India are so well-versed as Sambhu Chunder was in Western lore and the range of his studies covered all branches of knowledge. He never flirted with knowledge. His study was always thorough. Whatever he took up for perusal, he would begin from the beginning and end with the end. He would read the title, the inner title and the preface of a book before entering into its subject matter. Bad, good or indifferent, no author could complain of his inattention or half dealing with what his work contained. He would also read the whole of a newspaper and hence it was that he could not read many in order to make his own journal contain a thorough record of the week. But for all that, so full of thoughts he was that a single newspaper would afford him ample straws with which to make very handsome bricks. One little suggestion was enough to provoke in him the highest philosophy, most original thoughts, the brightest literature and the most wholesome and entertaining reading. The world has not as yet produced such a brilliant paragraphist as Dr. Sambhu Chunder, and even Englishmen of high education and culture admitted this truth.

Dr. Sambhu Chunder was a severe and yet a large-hearted critic. If he hit anybody he always hit with effect. The mean attacks in Anglo-Indian journals upon Native men and manners would provoke in him a sledge-hammer retaliation. But he could never be mean. His darts hit those at whom he levelled them with tremendous effect, because he hit from a high platform which reminded them of their low level. He had a profound pity and therefore no mercy for all sorts of meanness and his independence now and again led him into condemning personal iniquities which often incited bad feelings against him. But Sambhu Chunder was ever conscientious and never vindictive. He, of course, erred many a time in policy and principles, but he always erred on the side of conscience.

But Sambhu Chunder was more a man of heart than intellect. In fact, his highly developed intellectual powers were but the result of his highly developed heart. The old saying that where the heart is all right, the head seldom fails embodies a truth which is as good as the fact that man is born to die. Sambhu Chunder's worst enemies would make him forget the worst injuries they had done him by merely going to him and asking to be excused. A struggling editor or a young journalistic venture would receive from him the warmest encouragement though never sought for. None could more truly appreciate merit or be more enthusiastic in acknowledging originality. He could enter into the spirit of any body's writings almost as thoroughly as the writer himself, and in correcting or "doing up" manuscripts of his contributors or correspondents he always strove to preserve the idea and spirit of the writers, nay, his charming pen would touch up that idea or spirit into strikingly full bloom and expression.

Sambhu Chunder's virtues, greatness and attainments were so vast and varied that it would fill a big volume to relate all of them. It is, indeed, impossible even to mention a little with appreciation within the scope of a newspaper article however long. We would, therefore, conclude here with the promise that we shall try to record these varied features of his character in these columns as an opportunity offers. In fine, we must once more say that Dr. Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee was really a man in a million. He was an indomitable genius, and what genius has ever been truly appreciated in his day? The world loves talent because it serves it, the world hates genius because it rules it. But all the same, well may one exclaim of Sambhu Chunder:

His life was gentle: and the elements
So mixed in him that Nature might stand up
And say to all the world---This was a man.

---*Hope.*

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A lady, whose name we are permitted to mention, will not soon forget the spring of 1890. It was then that for the first time in her life she was afraid to be left alone; not from fear of enemies, but from sheer nervous excitement. She was obliged to have elastic put into her slippers to let them out—her feet were swollen so; and her hands were in the same condition. In the morning her face would puff up and large lumps form under her eyes and on her cheeks. Then a rash made its appearance all over her body, vanishing again almost immediately, as a blush comes and goes on the face.

The suddenness of this she compares to the sting of a wasp or hornet. An intense itching accompanied it, so she could not lie in bed or be quiet in any position on account of it. She was in misery night and day, and scarcely knew what to do with herself. Her legs got so painful and felt so tired she was put to it to get about. For eighteen months (it must have seemed like as many years) she was tormented in this way.

Meanwhile she consulted two doctors, and attended successively at the Newcastle Infirmary and at the Dispensary. But nothing more than temporary ease came of the treatment they gave her. The doctors recommended a change of air, and in August, 1891, she went to North Sunderland. She found relief at that place, but not from the air.

Now we must get back to the spring of 1890, and inquire what, if anything, preceded this strange outbreak. At that time, the lady says, she first felt languid, tired, and constantly sleepy. She was troubled with bad headaches and attacks of giddiness. Her appetite failed; she could eat but little, and after eating had a feeling of weight and fulness at the chest and sides. Her whole system was depressed, and the life in her appeared to sink, as the water does in a cistern where there exists a hidden leak somewhere. Then came what has already been described.

At North Sunderland, whither she went for a change of air, she met a gentleman named Cathcart, who expressed a most intelligent opinion of her case and advised the use of Mother Seigel's Curative Syrup. Convinced by his reasoning she procured a supply of this well-known remedy and began taking it.

Her letter concludes in these words: "After I had used the Syrup only a few days I felt a decided improvement in all respects. My appetite revived, my food digested better, and soon the rash and lumps entirely disappeared to return no more. I have since enjoyed the best of health. You are at liberty to make my statement public if you think it may be useful to others. (Signed) Mrs. Sarah Charleton, 27, John Street, Arthur's Hill, Newcastle, February 7th, 1893."

We congratulate this lady on her recovery and thank her for allowing us to publish the above details of her experience. The doctors called her ailment nettle rash, but it was more than that. Her blood was loaded with the poisonous acids generated by indigestion and dyspepsia—the same as the poisons of gout and of acute inflammatory rheumatism. The irritated nerves of the skin produced the rash, as the clogged pores were unable to excrete the poison. The purifying power of Seigel's Syrup expelled this poison through the kidneys and bowels, and by stimulating insensible perspiration over the whole surface of the skin.

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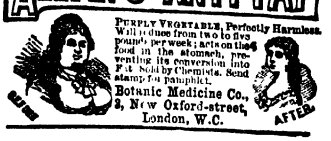

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from Banerjee, the late Revd Dr. K. M.
to Banerjee, Babu Sarodaprasad.
from Bell, the late Major Evans.
from Bhaddauri, Chief of
to Bimaya Krishna, Raja.
to Chelu, Rai Bahadur Ananda.
to Chatterjee, Mr K M.
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It is a most interesting record of the life of a remarkable man.—Mr H. Bidmgton Smith, Private Secretary to the Viceroy, 5th October, 1895

Dr Mookerjee was a famous letter-writer, and there is a breezy freshness and originality about his correspondence which make it very interesting reading.—Sir Alfred W. Croft, K.C.I.E., Director of Public Instuction, Bengal. 26th September, 1895.

It is not that amid the pressure of harassing official duties an English Civilian can find either time or opportunity to pay so graceful a tribute to the memory of a native personality as F. H. Skrine has done in his biography of the late Dr. Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee, the well-known Bengal journalist (Calcutta: Thacker, Spink and Co.); nor are there many who are more worthy of being thus honoured than the late Editor of *Reis and Rayyet*.

We may at any rate cordially agree with Mr. Skrine that the story of Mookerjee's life, with all its lights and shadows, is pregnant with lessons for those who desire to know the real India.

No weekly paper, Mr. Skrine tells us, not even the *Hindoo Patriot*, in its palmiest days under Kristodas Pal, enjoyed a degree of influence in any way approaching that which was soon attained by *Reis and Rayyet*.

A man of large heart and great qualities, his death from pneumonia in the early spring in the last year was a distinct and heavy loss to Indian journalism, and it was an excellent idea on Mr Skrine's part to put his Life and Letters upon record.—*Times of India*, (Bombay) September 30, 1895

It is rarely that the life of an Indian journalist becomes worthy of publication; it is more rarely still that such a life comes to be written by an Anglo Indian and a member of the Indian Civil Service. But, it has come to pass that in the land of the Bengali Babus, the life of at least one man among Indian journalists has been considered worthy of being written by an Englishman.—*The Madras Standard*, (Madras) September 30, 1895

The late Editor of *Reis and Rayyet* was a profound student and an accomplished writer, who has left his mark on Indian journalism. In that he has found a Caiman like Mr Skrine to record the story of his life he is more fortunate than the great Kristodas Pal himself.—*The Tribune*, (Lahore) October 2, 1895

For much of the biographical matter that issues so freely from the press an apology is needed. Had no biography of Dr. Mookerjee, the Editor of *Reis and Rayyet*, appeared, an explanation would have been looked for. A man of his remarkable personality, who was easily first among native Indian journalists, and in many respects occupied a higher plane than they did, and looked at public affairs from a different point of view from theirs, could not be suffered to sink into oblivion without some

attempt to perpetuate his memory by the usual expedient of a "life." The difficulties common to all biographers have in this case been increased by special circumstances, not the least of which is that the author belongs to a different race from the subject. It is true that among Englishmen there were many admirers of the learned Doctor, and that he on his side understood the English character as few foreigners understand it. But in spite of this and his remarkable assimilation of English modes of thought and expression, Dr. Mookerjee remained to the last a Brahman of the Brahmans—a conservation of the best of his inheritance that wins nothing but respect and approval. In consequence of this, his ideal biographer would have been one of his own disciples, with the same inherited sympathies, and trained like him in Western learning. If Bengal had produced such another man as Dr. Mookerjee, it was he who should have written his life.

The biography is warmly appreciative without being needlessly laudatory; it gives on the whole a complete picture of the man; and in the book there is not a dull page.

A few of the letters addressed to Dr. Mookerjee are of such minor importance that they might have been omitted with advantage, but not a word of his own letters could have been spared. To say that he writes idiomatic English is to say what is short of the truth. His diction is easy and correct, clear and straightforward, without Oriental luxuriance or striving after effect. Perhaps he is never so charming as when he is laying down the laws of literary form to young aspirants to fame. The letter on page 285, for instance, is a delightful piece of criticism: it is delicate plain-speaking, and he accomplishes the difficult feat of telling a would-be poet that his productions are not in the smallest degree poetry, without one may conclude, either offending the youth or repressing his ardour.

For much more that is well worth reading we must refer readers to the volume itself. Intrinsically it is a book worth buying and reading.
—The *Pioneer*, (Allahabad) Oct. 5, 1895.

The career of "An Indian Journalist" as described by F. H. Skrine of the Indian Civil Service is exceedingly interesting.

Mookerjee's letters are marvels of pure diction which is heightened by his nervous style.

The life has been told by Mr. Skrine in a very pleasant manner and which should make it popular not only with Bengalis but with all those who are able to appreciate merit unmarred by ostentation and earnestness unspoiled by harshness.—The *Muhammadan*, (Madras) Oct. 5, 1895.

The work leaves nothing to be desired either in the way of completeness, impartiality, or lifelike portrayal of character.

Mr. Skrine deals with his interesting subject with the unfailing instinct of the biographer. Every side of Dr. Mookerjee's complex character is treated with sympathy tempered by discrimination."

Mr. Skrine's narrative certainly impresses one with the individuality of a remarkable man.

Mookerjee's own letters show that he had not only acquired a command of clear and flexible English but that he had also assimilated that sturdy independence of thought and character which is supposed to be a peculiar possession of natives of Great Britain. His reading and the stores of his general information appear to have been, considering his opportunities, little less than marvellous.

One of the first to express his condolence with the family of the deceased writer was the present Viceroy, Lord Elgin. Mookerjee appears to have won the affection not only of the dignitaries with whom he came in contact, but also of those in low estate.

The impression left upon the mind upon laying down the book is that of a good and able man whose career has been graphically portrayed.—The *Englishman*, (Calcutta) October 15, 1895.

The career of an eminent Bengali editor, who died in 1894, throws a curious light upon the race elements and hereditary influences which affect the criticisms of Indian journalists on British rule.

The "Life and Letters of Dr. S. C. Mookerjee," a book just edited by a distinguished civilian in Calcutta, takes us behind the scenes of Indian journalism.

It is a narrative, written with insight and a complete mastery of the facts, of how a clever youth gradually grew into one of the ablest leader-writers in Bengal, and still more gradually matured into one of the fairest-minded editors that western education in India has yet produced. If the training and experience which develop the journalist in England are sometimes varied, they seem in India to have an even wider range.

But the object of this notice is to show how a great Bengali journalist is made; space forbids us to enter upon his actual performances. They will be found set forth at sufficient length, and with much felicity of expression, in Mr. Skrine's admirable monograph. It is characteristic of the noble service to which Mr. Skrine belongs, that such a book should have issued from its ranks. Dr. Mookerjee was no optimist. One of his brilliant speeches contained the following sentence:—"India has neither the soil nor the elasticity enjoyed by young and vigorous communities, but present the arid rocks and deserts of an effete civilization, hardly stirred to a semblance of life by a foreign occupation dozing over its easily-gained advantages." This was true of the pre-Mutiny India of 1851. If it is no longer true of the Queen's India of 1895, we owe it in no small measure to Indian journalists like Dr. Mookerjee who have laboured, amid some misrepresentation, to quicken the "semblance of life" into a living reality.—The *Times*, (London) October 14, 1895.

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VOL. XIV. CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7, 1895. WHOLE NO. 702.

CONTEMPORARY POETRY.

THE SUNYASSEE.

BY JAMES HUTCHINSON.

(Continued from p. 542.)

CANTO THIRD.

IX

And then, my brethren looked askance,
Or passed me, with averted glance,
The haggard look, that spoke my doom,
Was even too dark, for convent gloom.
Oh ! I have ever found it so,
That those, the deepest plunged in grief,
Will look, in vain, amid their woe,
And most, to priesthood, for relief.
And then, to please our prelate's pride,
Must we run, by his litter's side ;
That couch, besprent with gilding o'er,
While sackcloth was the robe, he wore ;
The way his jewelled heralds led,
While he wore ashes, on his head,
Whose matted hair, around it wound,
Unloosed, would sweep, along the ground.

X.

Such service, well, might suit a page,
Or monkling, from his convent cage ;
But arm, accustomed to the brand,
Disdains to wield an usher's wand.
Like fettered eagle, in his rage,
I fretted, in my narrow cage ;
They saw my state, and judged my pain,
That I was, as the desert's child,
And bade me seek Sirgoojah's wild, *
And tend their rich domain ;
Aye ! tend their wealth, who never knew,
To watch, or keep my own ;
I promised not ; but bade adieu,
And wandered forth, once more alone.

XI.

I tore, and cast my clothes, aside,
And smeared my body, and my hair,
With ashes, and the tiger's hide
Slung, at my back, as now I wear,
The sole, scant vesture, that remained,
For all those gauds, my rapine gained.
My matted hair, in plaited fold,
For turban, round my head, was rolled ;
The staff, and scrip, the arms, I bore,
For the keen blade, which once I wore ;
All wordly cares were, at an end ;
But these, for long, had ceased to be,
And, with my passions to contend,
I roamed a houseless Sunyassee ! *
No change had I, to hope, or dread,
Save that, should lay me, with the dead ;
And I would, then, have felt a pride,
To've known the worst, that could betide,
Had my own fate, whate'er it were,
Been object of a moment's care.

XII.

Small matter, where my footsteps bore ;
And so, I thought, 'twould soothe, once more,
To gaze, upon the stone-built dome,
Holds Jeswunt Holkar's tomb.
I found the spot, I sought, and there,
Still faithful, even beyond the grave,
And ready, tho' he could not save,
His favourite steed was grazing near,
Fast by his master's bier !
I saw, and grieved ;—nor sought to chide
My weakness, when the starting tear
Gushed forth, I could not hide.
And there, the priest his vigil keeps,
And there, the lamp, for ever, burns,
And there, the war-worn veteran weeps, †
And there, the weary traveller turns,
And pauses, on his trackless way,
For the final rest of him, to pray,
Whose checkered lot forbade to know,
What quiet meant, while here below.
And, surely, they have mourned him well,
'Tis thus, he would have loved to dwell,

* The monastery of Bood'h-Gyah, I have understood, is richly endowed with lands, in the districts of Ramghur, and Sirgoojah.

* The following, though a very imperfect account of the religious ascetics called Sunyassees, I have extracted from the Dictionary of religious ceremonies, for its brevity, and because I have no work by me, at the present moment, to which I could refer for a better. "Sunyassees,—a kind of religious order, among the Indian Brahmins. "They are anchorets, and affect the greatest abstinence, refraining "from marriage, and all pleasures in general. They make but one "meal, and live on alms ; and instead of a copper cup, which others "generally carry about with them, they are permitted to use earthen-"ware only. Their clothes are dyed with red earth, and they carry "a long bamboo cane, in their hands. They are forbid to touch, "either gold or silver, much less are they allowed to carry any, about "them. They have no fixed habitation, nor lie two nights together "in the same place, once a year excepted, when they are per-"mitted to continue together two months, in the same place.

"The Sunyassees are bound to be always ready to oppose six "enemies, viz., Cama, lust ; Croota, anger ; Lopa, avarice ; Madua, "pride ; the love of things of this world ; and Mutsara, revenge"

† Many years ago, the sepoys of one of the battalions of the old Fourth Regiment of Bengal Native Infantry, in passing the tomb, I think in Bundelkund, of the officer, by whom the corps was raised, worshipped or paid their devotions, at his grave ; I am not sure, whether I was not told, that a fakeer attended at the tomb, or kept a lamp burning there. The battalions of the Regiment in question still retain their respective designations of Burra, and Chotah Crawford, (i. e.) the great and little Crawfords ; they are both very distinguished corps.

Subscribers in the country are requested to remit by postal money orders, if possible, as the safest and most convenient medium, particularly as it ensures acknowledgment through the Department. No other receipt will be given, any other being unnecessary and likely to cause confusion.

Even, in his last, and narrow cell ;
Some tribute, still, the great should find,
And Holkar's was no common mind.

XIII.

I went my way, and passed our haunt,
By the Nurbuddah's stream ;
Like spirits, at the word, avaunt !
Or shadows, in a guilty dream,
Gone were they, every one !
The very walls were gone !
And onward, still, my footsteps led,
To Teoor's city of the dead ; *

I stood, upon a mound of stones,
That holds within, no buried bones,
But was the palace, and the bower
Of woman, decked in pride, and power ;
A queen, who died, in the battle field,
For the wild realm, she could not shield.
Where, now, Durgoutee can we trace
The princes of thy vaunted race ?*

* The village of Teoor is situated about five miles from Jubbulpore, towards the Nurbuddah, in a direction between Tilwaree and Bhera ghats. It is remarkable, for the ruins alluded to in the text ; they are supposed to be those of the ancient Gurrah, the capital of Goandwanah. "There is now scarcely one stone standing upon another, while the "dank, dark, jungle, which grows upon its site, is all but impenetrable. "This is indeed desolation ! the crumbling dust of bricks and tiles, for "miles around, mark, however, how extensive it once was, and perhaps "when there shall be fewer remains, than there now are, may satisfy the "inquirer, that it, like Babylon, indeed existed. Yes ! I stood upon "the site of a queen's palace, which is now a shapeless mound or "cairn of loose stones, and saw the poor artist dig out large blocks of "stone, which had constituted a portion of some colossal idol, to "mould them to the more shapeless forms of modern days. The "temples of this vanished city of the desert are still standing, and "though comparatively small, might vie in solidity of structure, with "those of Egypt." The temples above alluded to belong to the Buddhist or Jain worship, and contain many images of great beauty, cut in a very fine sandstone. The palace is said to have been that of Durgoutee, a queen of the Goands. The following account of this heroic, but ill-fated princess, extracted from Dow's translation of Ferishtah's History of India, is so interesting, that I consider no apology necessary for giving it insertion. In Dow's history, the name is written Durgetti, but I have used that adopted in the text, as being more in accordance, with the pronunciation of the people of the country. "At that time, the kingdom of Gurrah was governed by a "queen, whose name was Durgetti, famous for her beauty, and ac- "complishments ; her dominions were about three hundred miles in "length, and one hundred in breadth, yet so flourishing was the country, "that in this small track, there were about seventy thousand towns and "villages, well inhabited, which had the good fortune, never to have "fallen under the dominion of foreigners.

"Asaph, having heard of the riches of this country, disturbed the "peaceable inhabitants, unaccustomed to the sound of war, with con- "stant depredations ; he at length marched against them, with six thou- "sand horse, and about double that number of infantry. The queen, "with fifteen hundred elephants, eight thousand horse, and some foot, "prepared to oppose him. Like a bold heroine, she led on her troops "to action, clothed in armour, with a helmet upon her head, mounted "in a castle, upon an elephant, with her bow, and quiver, lying by her "side, and a burnished lance in her hand. Though her troops had "not been accustomed to action, the love of national independence "and the example of the queen, inspired every breast with a lion's "courage. Their eagerness to engage made them march in disorder, "towards the enemy, which the queen observing, commanded them "to halt, and forming her line anew, gave her troops strict orders to "march on slowly, and compactly, and to observe the signal to engage, "when it should be displayed from the elephant, that carried the royal "standard.

"In this manner, she received the enemy, whom she quickly repulsed, "and pressing upon them, had six hundred Mogul horsemen dead on "the field ; she pursued the rest till the evening, with great slaughter. "When night came on, the queen halted with her army, and gave them "orders to wash, and refresh themselves, that they might be prepared "for a night attack upon the enemy, before they could recover from "their consternation. But her minister, and the rest of her chiefs, less "daring, and of opinions less prudent, than this heroine, opposed this "salutary measure, and seriously insisted, on returning to the field "of battle, to bury their friends. She, accordingly, returned unwillingly, "and after the dead were burnt, again addressed her chiefs, and "solicited them, one by one, to accompany her to storm the Mogul "camp ; none of them however had the spirit to second her, in this "daring enterprize. They vainly imagined, that the enemy would of "their own accord, evacuate the country

"The chiefs of the little kingdom of Gurrah soon found, that they "were fatally frustrated in their hopes. Asaph to wipe away the "disgrace, which he had sustained the day before, and finding what "enemy he had to deal with, advanced in the morning, towards the "queen, with his artillery, which, in the preceding action, he had left "behind him, on account of the badness of the roads. The queen, upon "Asaph's approach, advanced to a narrow pass, and prepared to oppose "him. The Moor, scouring the pass with his artillery, soon opened "to himself a way into the plain beyond it, where the queen's army "was drawn up, in order of battle. The prince, Bâr, the queen's son, "a youth of great hopes, as soon as the Moguls came into the plain, "made a furious charge, and exhibited prodigies of valor. He "repulsed the enemy twice, but in the third attack, being wounded, "he was obliged to retire with loss of blood. When he was just falling from "his horse, his mother, who was mounted on an elephant, in the front "of the army, observed her son ready to expire. She immediately "called to some of her people, to carry him back to the rear ; many "of them accordingly crowded around him, some with a friendly "intention to serve him, but more to have an opportunity to quit the "field. The loss of the prince, in short, together with the retreat of "so many, with his person, struck a panic into the rest, so that the "unfortunate queen was left, only with three hundred men in the "field. Durgetti, however, seemed no wise affected, by her desperate "situation ; she stood her ground, with her former fortitude, till she "received an arrow in her eye ; she endeavoured to extricate it from "the wound, but as she tugged it, part of the steel broke short, and "remained behind. In the mean time, another arrow passed through "her neck, which she also drew out, but naime sinking under the "pain, a dimness swam before her eyes, and she began to nod, "from side to side of the howdah. She, however, recovered from her "fainting by degrees ; and a brave officer of her household, by name "Adhar, who drove her elephant, singly repulsed numbers of the "enemy, whithersoever he turned the outrageous animal. He begged "permission, as the day was now irretrievable, to carry the queen from "the field. She rejected the proposal, with a noble disdain. 'It is "true,' said she, 'we are overcome in war, but shall we ever be "vanquished in honour ? Shall we for the sake of a lingering ignomini- "ous life, lose that reputation and virtue, which we have been so "solicitous to acquire ? No ! let your gratitude now repay that service, "for which I lifted up your head, and which I now require at your "hands. Haste, I say, let your dagger save me, from the crime of "putting a period to my own existence.'

"Adhar burst into tears, and begged, that as the elephant was swift "of foot, he might be permitted to leave the field, and carry her to "a place of safety. In the mean time, the queen, finding that the "enemy crowded fast around her, and that she must be taken prisoner, "suddenly leaning forward, seized the dagger of Adhar, and plunging "it into her bosom, expired. The death of the queen rendered Asaph's "victory complete. Six Indian chiefs, upon their elephants, still stood "firm, and ashamed of being outdone by a woman, dedicated their "lives, to revenge the death of the queen."

* On the walls of a temple, at Ramnuggur, eighteen miles above the fortress of Mundlah, there is an extensive inscription, containing an epitome of the history of no less than fifty-three Goand monarchs. A translation of this inscription is to be found, I think, in the 15th Vol. of the Asiatic Researches of Bengal. The following account of the locality, in which the inscription is to be found, may not be al- together uninteresting ; in case however, the reader should con- found Ramnuggur with Teoor, it may be as well to mention, that they are quite distinct, and that they are situated, about sixty miles apart. "The principal objects of attraction were the remains of two palaces "of considerable antiquity. The larger one had been magnificent, "and could scarcely yet be said to be in ruins. Viewed in connection "with the capital of the country, it appeared to have been the Windsor "Castle of the Goand monarchs. Its walls and costly cornices, how- "ever, were now blackened over, by the smoke of nearly half a "village of poor peasantry, who had found an unmolested refuge, "within its walls. It is situated, within a hundred yards of the banks "of the Nurbuddah, and commands a view of that river, emerging "from the forest, and rushing along its stony bed, with scarcely more, "than summer song. Between it and the river, many a tree might still "be observed, to mark where a garden had been. The building was "of three stories, and enclosed a quadrangular area, in the centre "of which, there were still the remains of an extensive reservoir of "water. To the south, the front was ornamented with four circular "towers, and the apartments, which were large and handsome, with "pavilion-shaped ceilings, communicated with the private suite of "rooms for the ladies, and were probably intended for their use, on "state occasions. To the north, there was an elegant, and spacious "staircase, which conducted to apartments equally handsome, the "roofs of which were supported, principally on pillars. Here "perhaps, the court met to enjoy the cool breeze from the river, the "luxury of their hookahs, or the pleasures of the dance, as inclina- "tion prompted. On the top of the east and west sides of the "quadrangle, the apartments were of a more singular description. "They consisted of a series of small vaulted rooms, alternating with "intervening open spaces of equal size, between ; each of these I "have no doubt formerly contained a hapless female, who, in splendid "solitude, in vain mourned over the departed joys of her humble "paternal roof, or perhaps pined, in all the jealousy of unregarded "charms, over the supposed happier lot of some more favoured captive. "These female cribs might be made to communicate with each other, "but a more singular part of their construction consisted, in the inner "wall of the palace being sufficiently thick, to contain a private pas- "sage, from which, there was a separate entrance to each cell.

"A little to the west of the palace, the royal chapel, containing the "original objects of adoration, placed in it by its founder, was still "standing, and on its walls an extensive inscription, cut in blue marble, "existed in primitive simplicity, containing an epitome of the history "of no less, than fifty-three princes.

"The smaller palace was probably intended, for the dowager "branches of the family. Both are certainly the most successful "specimens, which I have yet witnessed of native architecture. They "were probably built, about the time of the Emperor Akbar, during "whose regn, this interesting country was overrun, by the armies of "the empire, and the sceptre passed, from the hands of its princes, "for ever.'—*Recollections of the Nurbuddah—Orient Pearl, vol. I.*

Thrice hapless wert thou! had not fame
Made us familiar, with thy name;
Thy noble daring 'gainst thy foes;
Thy glorious death, and many woes;
The, once, proud city of thy sway,
Even as thy rule, hath passed away;
Its name, of millions, once, the shout,
Hath, now, become the sport of doubt;
And yet its fragments, far around,
And broken idols strew the ground,
With matted brushwood, tangled o'er,
That, nightly, hears the tiger roar;
Its temples, still, are standing there,
But echo, now, no more to prayer;
But, in them, serpents rear their crests,
And birds of darkness build their nests.

(To be continued)

WEEKLYANA.

THE objections against the Jury Bill have prevailed. It will not be proceeded with. Such is the report in the morning papers. The absence of *sid* or persistency in error or obstinacy not to withdraw, is praiseworthy.

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TO-DAY'S *Gazette of India* announces the appointment of Mr. C. J. Lyall, C.S.I., C.I.E., I.C.S., Secretary to the Government of India in the Home Department, as Chief Commissioner of the Central Provinces with effect from the date of assuming charge. Mr. J. P. Hewett, C.I.E., officiating for Mr. Lyall as Secretary, has also been confirmed in the post.

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THE next Sheriff of Calcutta is the Hon'ble P. Playfair. He is the man of the hour among European merchants in this city, and deserves the distinction.

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SIR Alexander and Lady Mackenzie have arrived at Calcutta. Sir Alexander and Lady Miller are also back from Darjeeling. Sir Charles and Lady Paul are among us again.

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SIR John Ardagh, Private Secretary to the last Viceroy of India, Lord Lansdowne, now Secretary of State for War, has been appointed extra Aid-de-Camp to Lord Wolseley, Commander-in-Chief of the British Army.

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THE original estimate of the income-tax for the Lower Provinces for 1894 95 was Rs. 42,30,000. It was raised before the operations commenced to Rs. 43,75,000. The amount realized was 45,61 118. The net revenue gives an increase of 5·1 per cent. against an increase of of 3 per cent. in the preceding year. The number of persons finally assessed came up to 106,975 or an increase of 1,499, or 1·4 per cent. Out of 108 765 persons originally assessed, 1,790 were exempted on revision, the percentage of exemption being 1·6 against 2·1 in the preceding year. The average incidence of the tax was Re. 1 to 17·9 persons. In Calcutta one person in 39 paid the tax, the average incidence Re. 1 to every 4 persons remaining the same as in the preceding year. The proportion of persons assessed to population for the whole province was 1 to 665. Out of the total collections Rs. 38,80,301 on account of tax for the year during the year, Calcutta contributed Rs. 18,99,075 or 48·9 per cent. The final demand amounted to Rs. 39,72,351 on 106 975 persons. The percentage of collections was 97·7 against 96 of the previous year. Distress warrants were issued in 5,035 cases. Property was distrained in 1,934 and actually sold in 337 cases. The tax collected after the issue of warrants but before distraint, amounted to Rs. 39,401, after distraint but before sale, Rs. 34·349, and by sale of property Rs. 3,463. The final demand on account of penalties was Rs. 34,455 and for costs Rs. 12,737. There were one case of fraud and four cases of embezzlements. In the first the notice of increased assessment was altered from 42 to 10 and the leaf of the assessment list abstracted. The prosecutions, in every instance successful, numbered 10—5 for false personation as assessors, one for obstructing a distress warrant, two for false accounts and account books, one for false complaint of demanding bribes and for concealing sources of income, and one for false statement in a verified petition of objection. This last conviction was set aside on appeal. No particulars of the case are given. It would be unsafe to convict a person on this charge, for the prescribed form of objection to an assessment admits of no explanation and requires the mention of the assessable income to the pie, under a law the interpretation of which entirely rests with the collecting agency.

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IN Rangoon, a widow lady, wanting to pay taxes, borrowed Rs. 100 of a chetty who advanced the amount at 144 per cent. interest and on the security of title deeds of a house valued at Rs. 4,690 What were the attendant expenses? What the cost for examining the title deeds and title to the property? What the amount received by her after payment of all charges?

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AT the Bombay Criminal Sessions, one Hasan Gafoor was sentenced to three years' rigorous imprisonment for biting off the nose of a woman named Ashoo.

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THE papers publish some important information regarding the settlement of the long pending Pamir Question, and the cordial relations existing between Great Britain and Russia in those parts. In an interview with a representative of Reuter's Agency, Colonel Gerard, the British Commissioner, said :—

THE START.

"We started from Simla on June 15 last, and met the Russian Commission on July 22 at Lake Victoria. We completed the demarcation of the frontier by the first week of September, and on the 13th of that month our whole work was concluded. I left the Pamirs that day, and marched with the Russian Commission, as their guest, as far as the frontier at Ash. Thence I came by post horses *via* Khokand and Tashkend to Samarkand, whence I proceeded on my journey by the Trans-Caspian Railway."

RUSSIAN HOSPITALITY.

"First of all I want to draw attention to the extreme cordiality which existed between the Russian and British Commissions. At a moment like the present, when there is much discussion on Anglo-Russian relations, it is well to dwell upon the fact that, so far as the Pamir Question is concerned, the two Governments are absolutely at one. The Russians could not have extended greater cordiality towards me than they did, and had I been a Frenchman, the reception given me would have been everywhere telegraphed as evidence of the solidity of the Franco-Russian alliance. The British and Russian camps were pitched close to one another, the Union Jack and the Russian ensign floated side by side, and the British and Russian officers daily exchanged hospitalities. At the town of Ash we received a great ovation, and on our nearing Marghilan the whole garrison turned out to honour us. We were entertained at a supper and there were fireworks and illuminations, the British and Russian flags being displayed on all sides. At all the public banquets—about six in number—arranged in our honour at the different towns through which we passed, the Queen's health was invariably drunk first, and the speeches dwelt upon the cordial relations existing between the two Powers. On the railway a special saloon was placed at my disposal by the Russian authorities. I was invited to the Governors' houses, and stayed there instead of putting up at hotels. In fact, everybody went out of his way to pay us attention, the hospitality being almost over-powering The relations between the representatives of the two Governments were all that could be desired, and all stories of strained relations are untrue."

THE SETTLEMENT.

"Both Commissions have agreed to a line of demarcation up to the Chinese frontier. All the documents have been signed, and are now on their way home. The Pamir Question is practically settled. When the Commissions reached the highest point attainable, the last pillar (No. 12) of demarcation was driven in, and the Russian Commissioner, turning to me, said:—'There lies the Pamir Question, buried beneath that stone.' The value of the Pamirs themselves is *nil*. The value of the Agreement is that we know on whose territory we stand and thus disputes similar to those which occurred in Shignan, Roshan, and elsewhere will be prevented. By one Agreement, there is a buffer State, partly Chinese and partly Afghan, between the Russian frontier and the Hindu Kush. In the Pamirs themselves, everything is in a complete state of rest. The Russians have one garrison at the Pamirski Post, and the nearest support of that force is at Kuldja, where is a sotnia of Cossacks. The last-named post is two hundred miles north of the Pamirski Post, which is about a hundred miles north of the frontier agreed upon as the limit of the respective spheres of influence. There were no Afghans on the Pamirs; they had all withdrawn to the left bank of the river. The nearest Afghan post we passed was one composed of seven men at Sarhad-i-Wakhan. The Chinese Garrison at Tash-Kurgan consisted of three hundred Regulars, who were in full occupation of the district. The nearest British post is in the Hunza Nagyr country, one hundred and forty miles from the present limit of the sphere of influence on the road to Gilghit. At the end of July the two Commissions bestowed new names on the mountains and lakes forming the new boundary. The Sarl Kul we named Lake Victoria, and the range of mountains we called after the Emperor Nicholas. The two chief peaks were called Mount Salisbury and Mount Lobanoff, and the highest connecting peak between Lake Victoria and the watershed of the Nicholas range we named 'Pic du Bon Accord.'"

DEAFNESS. An essay describing a really genuine Cure for Deafness, Singing in Ears, &c., no matter how severe or long-standing, will be sent post free.—Artificial Ear-drums and similar appliances entirely superseded. Address THOMAS KEMPE, VICTORIA CHAMBERS, 19, SOUTHAMPTON BUILDING, HOLBORN, LONDON.

THE TRANS-CASPIAN RAILWAY.

"The extension of the Trans-Caspian Railway is proceeding apace. It is a purely commercial undertaking. The alarmist reports in the Indian papers about the ulterior motives of Russia with respect to the strategic value of the line are absurd. The Railway goes merely through the commercial centres, and travels parallel with the frontier. So far from running towards the frontier, it rather edges away from it. To suppose that the country through which this line passes is desolate, and that the railway must, therefore, be intended for strategic uses, is ridiculous. The country is one of amazing fertility, and resembles Cashmere. Populous villages abound, and the land is densely cultivated. There is a very large industry in cotton and silk As evidence of the richness of the country, I would point out that the State Bank of Khokand, only recently started, does business to the extent of a million sterling monthly. All the roads are crammed with caravans of cotton, of which Turkestan could produce a quarter of all that commodity required for Russia. All this I mention only to show that there is real need for the railway, and to refute the notion that it is intended for warlike purposes. As I said before, it is purely commercial"

COMMERCE NOT WAR.

"Russia's policy is one of commerce rather than of war. The great thing to remember is that Russia and Great Britain are now absolutely at one on this question, which, at one time, seriously threatened the friendly relations between the Governments of London and St. Petersburg."

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MESSRS. Thacker, Spink and Co. are advertising a new edition of *Letters written in a Mahratta Camp during the year 1809*, by Thomas Duer Broughton. The letters were first published in England, in 1813, by Murray, Albemarle Street. They were noticed by Sydney Smith in the *Edinburgh Review* in a short critique which shows all the peculiarities of Sydney's genius and style. The following extract will, we are sure, be read with interest.

"This is a lively, entertaining, well-written book; and we can conscientiously recommend it to our readers. Mr. Thomas Duer Broughton does not, it is true, carry any great weight of metal, but, placed in a curious and novel scene, he has described what he saw from day to day, and preserved for the amusement of his readers, the impressions which those scenes made upon him, while they were yet strong and fresh. The journals of military men are given to the public much more frequently than they used to be; and we consider this class of publications as one of great utility and importance. The duties of such men lead them into countries very little known to Europeans, and give to them the means of observing and describing very striking peculiarities in manners, habits, and governments. To lay these before the public is a praiseworthy undertaking and if done simply and modestly (as is the case with this publication), deserves great encouragement. Persons unaccustomed to writing, are prevented from attempting this by the fear of not writing sufficiently well; but where there is something new and entertaining to tell, the style becomes of comparatively little importance. He who lives in a Mahratta camp, and tells us what he hears and sees, can scarcely tell it amiss. As far as mere style is concerned, it matters very little whether he writes like *Cæsar* or *Nullus*. Though we praise Mr. Broughton for his book, and praise him very sincerely, we must warn him against that dreadful propensity which young men have for writing verses. There is nothing of which Nature has been more bountiful than poets. They swarm like the spawn of cod-fish, with a vicious fecundity that invites and requires destruction. To publish verses is become a sort of evidence that a man wants sense; which is repelled not by writing good verses, but by writing excellent verses;—by doing what Lord Byron has done;—by displaying talents great enough to overcome the disgust which proceeds from satiety, and showing that all things may become new under the reviving touch of genius. But it is never too late to repent and do well. We hope Mr. Broughton will enter into proper securities with his intimate friends to write no more verses."

NOTES & LEADERETTES,

OUR OWN NEWS,

&

THE WEEK'S TELEGRAMS IN BRIEF, WITH OCCASIONAL COMMENTS.

THE situation in Turkey continues critical. The Sultan disregards the repeated counsels of the Porte to admit additional vessels to the Bosphorus as guardships to the Embassies, and Her Majesty's ship Dryad has left the entrance to the Dardanelles and rejoined the British squadron at Salonica. The Sultan has appealed in vain to Russia, Austria, France and Germany, not to press the question of extra guardships. Prince Lobanoff, the Russian Minister for Foreign Affairs, undertook to sound the different Cabinets, but receiving unfavourable replies informed the Porte that he declined to sever himself from the other Powers. Count Goluchowske, the Austrian Minister for Foreign Affairs, in, reply to the Sultan's appeal, emphasized the complete *entente* existing between the Powers, and advised him to abandon his dilatory policy. The Embassies have again addressed the Porte on the subject. It is feared no more delay will be tolerated. Said Pasha, who was recently Grand Vizier, has been ordered to reside in the Sultan's palace, but fearing murder has taken refuge in the British Embassy.

In the meantime fresh massacres of Christians have taken place at Amtab. Kurds, and the Namidieh Cavalry (militia commanded by tribal leaders and associated with regular army) are raiding the entire province of Van and committing horrible atrocities. The entire population of the village of Jurtabon, numbering upwards of two hundred souls, have been killed.

The emissaries of the Armenian Committee have appeared in South Russia, and are urging the Armenians to join the movement against the Turks. The Russian Government are repressing these propaganda.

THE Reichstag was opened on December 3. The Emperor William in his speech from the throne said that the foreign relations of Germany continue to be friendly. The effort of Germany, Russia, and France to avert further complications arising from the war between China and Japan had been successful, thanks to the judicious moderation shown by Japan. The result, His Majesty said, would contribute to preserve and enlarge a field of peaceful labour for Germany's industry and trade. The situation arising from the deplorable events in Turkey had occupied the serious attention of Germany, who faithful to her alliance and the principles of German policy, was ever ready to co-operate with the Powers whose interests require them to work in the cause of peace. The united resolution of the Powers wish to respect treaties and support the Sultan's Government in establishing order. The state of things justifies the hope that their efforts will not want success.

PRESIDENT Cleveland, in his message to Congress, states that Great Britain has not yet replied to the American note of July last protesting against the enlargement of British Guiana, contrary to the rights and will of Venezuela, and proposing arbitration Referring to Armenia, he hoped that the prompt and effective action of the Powers will not be delayed. The President then goes on to say that the country is financially ill, and will require heroic treatment. He deprecates free coinage under the guise of bimetalism. In conclusion he urges the necessity of maintaining neutrality in the Cuba question.

ALL the Socialist Reichstag Committees and all Social and Democratic organisations in Berlin have been closed on the ground that they endanger public order. Arrests, prosecutions and sentences for political offences are daily increasing. Herr Koeller, Home Minister, has resigned owing to his having dissolved the Socialist Committees without consulting Prince Hohenlohe, the German Chancellor.

AFTER several days' debate, confidence in Signor Crispi's Cabinet was voted by a majority of one hundred and thirty-six.

HER Majesty's ships Racoon, Sparrow and Magpie have arrived at Accra, to support the Ashanti expedition.

LORD Roberts, speaking at a lecture on the Eastern question at Dublin, said that he was rejoiced at the recognition of the fact that England occupied a continental position in the East, where her interests must be protected by continental means of defence. The policy of disregarding events beyond the north-west frontier of India was, he said, inapplicable to the present conditions of British occupation.

THE French have established an observation post sixty miles from Mongsin.

NEGOTIATIONS between France and Great Britain regarding the Mekong question are at present at a standstill.

A CHINESE force in Yunnan has dislodged a French garrison which had been established at Muangu, but the reason for the act is unknown.

THE *Novoe Vremya* states that at a conference of foreign ministers held at Seoul, it was decided that the Japanese should evacuate Corea, with the exception of two companies at Seoul and two at Gensan and Jusan for the present.

WE would draw the attention of our readers to the letter of Professor Vambéry in the correspondence column. We cannot be sufficiently grateful to him for his repeated messages of good will from the banks of the Danube. We wish our countrymen will profit by his teachings and learn his catholicity to sink all race distinctions between Hindus and Mahomedans for the benefit of Indians in general.

THE Indore difficulty has been solved for the moment. The Holkar has explained himself to the Viceroy. The Maharaja goes out of his territory for a tour in search of health in Northern India. Mr. Bedarkar has been asked to resign. Rai Bahadur Nanakchand succeeds him as minister. A Council has been appointed with full powers to carry on the administration Sardar Narayan-rao Bhagvat, Sardar Sakharam Martand, Chief Justice Dhurandhar, Rao Saheb B. A. Gupte, Lala Bishweshwarmatu, Rao Saheb B. P. Wagle, Rao Saheb K. D. Kotnai and Rao Saheb R. J. Bhide constitute the new State Council

THE last St. Andrew's Dinner was one of the largest attended. The Hon'ble P. Playfair occupied the chair. The usual toasts of recent years were drunk and there was merriment all round. We publish elsewhere the speech of the Chairman. We have no space this week for that of the Lieutenant-Governor.

THE ever active Sir Charles Elliott is more than attentive to his work now that he is about to lay down the reins of office. He is anxious that the orders made by him be issued as soon as passed. He means evidently to leave a clean table for Sir Alexander Mackenzie.

BESIDES official work, Sir Charles's closing days in Calcutta are fully occupied with duties thrown on him by his friends and admirers. Since his return to Calcutta with Lady Elliott, he is much pressed for time for all the last honours to him. Last Saturday he was the chief guest at the St Andrew's Dinner. This week is pretty full. On the 4th the Mahomedans opened the complimentary farewell for which they have been preparing themselves. It was the naming of the Madressah Hostel under construction. The principal speakers were Prince Jehan Kadr Bahadoor, Khan Bahadoor Abdul Jubbar and Mr. A. F. M. Abdur Rahman. They fully justified the movement started by the Mahomedans for a public entertainment and memorial to their great patron. The Hon'ble Prince in a few grateful words obtained permission of the Lieutenant-Governor to name after him the Hostel "to keep alive in generations to come the memory of what His Honor has done for the welfare and advance of the Mahomedan community." Mr Rahman was equally enthusiastic. He said :—

"Sir Charles Elliott will be long and gratefully remembered by the present and future generations of Mahomedans in Bengal in connection with this noble edifice which is now in course of construction—His Honor's magnificent munificence. The backwardness of Mahomedans in education has been a source of constant anxiety and thought to the leaders of the Mahomedan community for more than a quarter of a century. The causes are many and well known, but, gentlemen, I am delighted to say that one of them has been now removed. Mahomedan parents in Bengal were unable to send their children for the purpose of education to Calcutta owing to there being no suitable accommodation for them or proper or adequate supervision over them by any recognised authority. That great want which has been felt for years together has now been supplied That being so, it is unnecessary for me to say that the gratitude which the Mahomedan community feels will ring from one end of Bengal to the other. Dr. Hœrnle has made a reference to my humble efforts towards the promotion of this hostel. All I can say is that as long as I am alive my services will be always devoted to the truest and best interests of my own community, for I firmly believe that if every Mahomedan did his duty honestly and conscientiously by his community, the time would come when we would not only regain our lost ground but be side by side with our Hindu brethren."

The speech of the day was the address of Khan Bahadoor Abdul Jubbar. He entered into the causes—the social changes which made the Hostel a necessity. He also explained that in giving his substantial support, Sir Charles was not unjustly partial to the Mahomedans. He remarked :

"The Koran teaches its followers to be grateful to their benefactors and it is only an act of gratitude on the part of my co-religionists to express a wish that the hostel should bear His Honor's name. Upwards of a century ago Mr. Warren Hastings established the Calcutta Medressa for the benefit of the Mahomedans, and his name has ever since been a household word among the Mahomedans of Bengal. I have no doubt that the name of Sir Charles Elliott will be equally remembered by present and future generations, His Honor having given to the students of the Medressa a residence. In the good old time the need of a hostel was not much felt, as then every well-to-do Mahomedan in Calcutta was attentive to the pious duty of sheltering and feeding one or more students. Unfortunately, during the last thirty years, there has not only been a sad reaction in the circumstances of the Mahomedan residents of Calcutta, but self-indulgence, I am sorry to say, has become prevalent among those who are able to help others Mahomedan mode of charity has now almost disappeared, and poor students in the mofussil have been deprived of the means of living in Calcutta for education. At this juncture His Honor has provided them with a hostel, and the Mahomedans will for ever remain indebted to His Honor I do not mean to be understood that His Honor was in any way partial to the Mahomedans of this province, but he saw the difficulties under which the Mahomedans laboured, and as a wise statesman he adopted, without injustice to the claims of others, such measures as would indirectly ameliorate their condition"

In his reply to the vote of thanks proposed by the Hon'ble Nawab Syed Ameer Hossein, Sir Charles Elliott remembered the services done to the cause of Mahomedan education and to that community by the late Nawab Abdool Luteef Bahadoor, and wished that a tablet might be erected in the new building to commemorate the memory of the departed Nawab.

The day after, the Calcutta Medical School entertained the retiring Lieutenant-Governor to a farewell address.

Preparations have been made by Raja Benoy Krishna for this evening for an Evening Party to meet the Lieutenant-Governor. It is expected that not only the heads of Native society but the Pandits will assemble to bless the retiring Governor and wish him a safe voyage home. We are not aware whether any other surprise is in store.

Next week comes off the grand native entertainment at the Town Hall to be followed by the Civil Service Dinner. Sir Charles Elliott will also open the Marcus Square and receive an address from the Society for the Higher Training of Young Men.

REIS & RAYYET.

Saturday, December 7, 1895.

THE OLD BENGAL POLICE.

THE Bengal Police, when first organised in 1862, consisted of a heterogeneous mass of drafts from the old and the military Police and a proportion of new men to make up the full complement. The officers were of three different elements : 1st., Thana Darogahs, taken, with some few exceptions, from the old service, 2nd, commissioned and non-commissioned officers of the disbanded military Police battalions, and 3rd, a fair proportion of new men. The rank and file consisted of a limited number of Thana burkundazes, the majority having declined to enter the new service from a vague fear, and a large proportion of Sepoys of the military battalions and recruits. The organisation had for its heads District and Assistant Superintendents. Some of these were S. C. officers, others belonged to the broken up Salt department. Not a few of the latter were young Englishmen ignorant of all work but who had sufficient interest to be provided for. It cannot, therefore, be supposed that any judgment was exercised in the selection of subordinate officers and men. The few educated and well-connected natives, who first entered the new Police as Inspectors and Sub-Inspectors, had to leave in a short time in disgust at the capricious treatment they received from their inexperienced superiors. As a consequence, native gentlemen having any self-respect refused to enter the department notwithstanding the fair prospect it offered of pay. Out of a large number of officers of this class, the proportion of educated men of good families, therefore, was small. The men recruited as constables were, in many instances, the refuse of the jails. Scarcely any enquiries were made regarding their character and antecedents. All that was wanted was a good array of uniformed men against the next inspection of the Deputy Inspector-General or other superior officer. Much success could not be expected of a department whose component parts were so weak.

After a little drill at the head-quarters of a District, both subordinate officers and men were sent on duty to the different Police stations in the interior. During their stay at head-quarters, the Inspectors and Sub-Inspectors were generally employed in the office of the District Superintendent as English clerks and in light office duty, because the regular ministerial establishment was ridiculously small. There was a school at the head-quarters of every District, but the subordinate officers never attended it; nor were they otherwise trained for the regular work they were subsequently called upon to perform. The result was that most of them had to depend on *Tandnuvises*, men without any pay but who, however, managed to make handsome incomes. Some reform has since been attempted in this direction by appointing constables who can read and write. But *Tandnuvises* are still allowed at the recommendation of the Inspectors.

Considering the large area of every Bengal District, the number of officers and men at first sanctioned was insufficient. Since then several reductions have been made on account of financial embarrassments. Not to speak of efficiency, the strength of the Force is inadequate for the two of its principal duties—the prevention and detection of crime. There are also many stations, of which, instead of Sub-Inspectors, Head-constables are in charge. Their status and respectability may be judged by the fact that they are of four grades drawing salaries of Rs. 10, Rs. 15, Rs. 20 and Rs. 25. What a high officer to place over an area equal to that of an average English county, having, besides, immense power for good or evil over thousands of Her Majesty's subjects! Latterly, Sub-Inspectors have come to be placed over Thanas, which have, however, been reduced in number; but these officers are mostly no more than higher grade Head-constables. The average number of constables doing duty in each Police station is about fifteen, insufficient to go the round of a village even once a week, the jurisdiction of a Thana being very extensive. The village Chowkidars are, therefore, left pretty much the arbiters of the lives and property of the rayyet.

A few words are necessary regarding the village Chowkidari, or, as it is now called, the Rural Police. During the last twenty years Commissions have sat and reams of paper been written as to the means of re-organising the Rural Police, for its better control, for raising its status, and for making it a subordinate agency of the regular Police. How far the attempt has succeeded, we will not stop here to enquire. We will refer to some facts which may help the enquiry. In some Districts the village Chowkidars are still paid by *Chakran* or service lands granted by the Zemindars, and in others by a small rate on each householder. One who pays the piper may command the tune. The Chowkidars are as much the servants of Government as of the Zemindar or his agent and the heads of the village community, according to the system of payment in vogue. As in most cases their regular pay is a trifle, they generally labor hard during the day to procure means to maintain themselves, and go to sleep when they are expected to keep watch and ward. Besides other multifarious duties, they have to attend weekly or twice a week at the Police Station according to the distance of their villages and report a crime when it is the will of the Zemindar's agent or the heads of the village community that it should be revealed. For, when there is no clashing of interests in a village and the people are of one mind, even heinous offences are suppressed and no information is allowed to reach the Police station. This is frequently done to obviate the infliction of the Police officers' visit and its consequent annoyance and expenses. The people have not forgotten that their sires and grandsires had to pay the Police-*Salami* for inducing the Police to close its investigation and leave the village. Even now Police officers and constables expect to live at the expense of the village as a customary right during their stay. If the crime is serious, the officer remains on the spot for several days during which all field work is at a standstill, the local bazar and shops are closed, the women are unable to get out of their homes for fetching water or for other domestic purposes, and festivities are stopped. If the offenders are detected and the investigation is conducted successfully, several of the substantial villagers have to proceed first to the Thanna, then to the head-quarters of the District to attend at the Magistrate's Court and possibly a second time at the Sessions Court.

The present Police, though reformed, unfortunately inherits a portion of the bad name which the old Police gained by its misdeeds. The old days are, however, gone by when, to obtain an appointment as Darogah or Mohurer or Jamadar, a man had to dance attendance at the Magistrate's Court for years and to fee the Sheristadar and Amlah, and when appointed to make presents at stated intervals. Cases are known in which more than a thousand rupees had to be paid. For a burkundazship a hundred and sometimes more was given. Then, again, all the Thannah establishment had to spend freely once a year when the Magistrate was on tour. The Amlah and Chaprasis who accompanied him and his personal servants had to be fed and paid handsomely. Though the Khansama was paid by the Magistrate for his Russad, not a pice ever reached the Darogah, and the Darogah was not the man to pay the actual supplies from his own pocket. Regarding appointments in the Police, the common saying was "whatever the character of the appointment, it carried with it butter and rice," meaning a grand style of living.

NEO-BUDDHISM.

An Oriental scholar of solid reputation, referring to the latest fad of Sir Edwin Arnold and Colonel Olcott, speaks of the movement for depriving the present possessors of the ancient Temple at Buddh-Gya, as "that great humbug of neo-Buddhism and the mountebank propaganda of the Mahabodhi Society." As the cause of neo Buddhism has suddenly become popular with philosophical dilettantes of a certain class, we publish below an extract, especially translated, from the last "Bulletin" in French of M. A. Barth, dealing almost exhaustively with the question. It deals with the history of the movement till the end of 1893. Very little requires to be added for bringing it down to date. The reflections of M. Barth are so obviously just that, except a handful of fanatics who pretend to have found in Buddhism the most

The Indian Association for the Cultivation of Science.

Lecture by Dr. D. N. Chatterjee, B.A., M.B., C.M., on Tuesday, the 10th Inst., at 6 to 8 P.M. *Subjects*: Histology—Liver, Physiology—Alimentation.

Lecture by Babu Rajendra Nath Chatterjee, M.A., on Wednesday, the 11th Inst., at 6 P.M. *Subject*: Light—its nature and mode of propagation.

Lecture by Dr. Nilratan Sirkar, M.A., M.D., on Thursday, the 12th Inst., at 6 to 7 P.M. *Subject*: Zoology—The Flat worms.

Lecture by Dr. Mahendra Lal Sircar, on Thursday, the 12th Inst., at 5 P.M. *Subject*: Galvanometers. Action of currents upon each other.

Lecture by Dr. Nilratan Sirkar, M.A., M.D., on Saturday, the 14th Inst., at 6 to 7 P.M. *Subject*: Chemical Physiology—Carbo-Hydrates.

MAHENDRA LAL SIRCAR, M.D.,
December 7, 1895. *Honorary Secretary.*

advanced type of faith, every one will yield his ready assent to them. The "Bulletin," we may mention, is a critical account, which M. Barth publishes every third or fourth year, of the works issued during the period, on Indian religions. The Bengali mind is eminently imitative. It could not be that when men like Sir Edwin Arnold and Col. Olcott entered the field there would be no Bengali imitators, however dubious the honour attaching to a successful trot across or around it. Accordingly, Babu Nobin Chandra Sen, "the poet of the Hindu revival," although unfamiliar with the spelling of the very name of the great work that forms the basis of that revival, came forward with his *Amitábha* or a versified life of Buddha after the fashion of *The Light of Asia*. We have, in a recent number, expressed our opinion about the merits of Babu Sen's work. Hear now how a foreign critic speaks of Sir Edwin's versified life of the same religious teacher. "*The Light of Asia* (and the same may be said of the translation of *Gitagovinda*) may be a fine piece of versification, the judgment of which must be left to his countrymen; but it is a bad work, without any true poetry, for there can be no true poetry where there is no common sense."

Translation.

"With M. Augustin Chaboureau (author of an Essay on Buddhist philosophy) we leave the domain of tangible studies to enter upon the limboes of Buddhism, and its allies, occultism, theosophy, spiritism, Kabbalism, &c. M. Chaboureau who is the editor of the "Veil of Isis," and an esoterist, unless I am mistaken, will not allow himself to be classed as a neo-Buddhist and is ever ill disposed towards it, I cannot well see why. When once he has cleared himself of certain eccentricities, his method at bottom and his results are almost the same. because he seeks for and finds in Buddhism not only a transcendental philosophy, unique and original, but also a science, destined, it may be, to be the science of the 20th century, but in any case, a science markedly in advance of our own age. His book deserves, for some reason, to be ranked above the ordinaty productions put forth by this school, but still it does belong to one and the same class. No one expects me to give a detailed account of that literature, and even if he did, I would be incapable of giving one. I cannot even be certain whether the periodicals of all sizes and shapes which champion him and are his organs, are still alive—such as the *Lucifer* (London), the *Path* (New York), the *Lotus Blüter* (of Dr. Franz Hartmann of Leipzic), without counting the Paris papers. Among outside works, the best are still only effusions of an attenuated dilettantism like the *Imitation of Buddha* (of M. Ernest Boulen), and the anonymous tract attributed after to Madame Blavatsky but since acknowledged by Mr. Mabel Collins, the *Light on the Path*, which has been translated into Sanscrit by Pandit Bhâshyacharya (*Light-producer*, 2nd Ed., Mysore 1889). Anyone, on the other hand, who wishes to see the extent to which fanaticism and credulousness can be pushed, has only to peruse the prospectus of a work published in Philadelphia, "Veiled Unveiled" which breathes the neo-Buddhist inspiration in its every anchorites.

In India, as everywhere else, the movements inseparable from theosophy in publications, the societies, the champions of the cause are almost invariably those of the other also. The leadership, more or less clearly, rests in the hands of Col. Henry S. Olcott, president of the Madras Theosophical Society, which reckons in the outside world 200 branches (two of them in Paris, it would seem), of which 150 are in India. The organ of the Society, the *Theosophist*, has entered on its 15th volume. Mr. Olcott having already endowed Buddhism with a catechism, has now published a manual, approved by the heads of the church in Burma, Chittagong and Japan. It sums up in 40 articles the common creed of all Buddhists (see the number of the journal for Jan., 1892). It can readily be supposed that this platform of common belief, as Colonel Olcott terms it, is feeble enough and bears little resemblance to the Buddhism of any epoch or of any known land. All that it proves for the time being is that in India, as elsewhere, it has been centralized among persons without much discernment; possibly too it was taken quite seriously at the recent Chicago Congress. The Society professes, moreover, to have one eclectic and naively mystic cult for all ancient manifestations of Aryan thought, and the *Theosophist* contains in this connection a certain amount of Hindoo religious archæology, from which we must not expect too much criticism, but which is at the same time of a real value and superior at all events to anything published in similar periodicals in the West. The Europeans who form part of the army militant in this movement do not betray overmuch judgment, but the natives are there in their own element and many of them see in it a means of rehabilitation and safety for their fellow countrymen. It is one of the manifold manifestations and not the least curious, of the travail pains which are besetting the higher classes of Hindoo society and its contact spreads even to a goodly number of Anglo Indians (see the Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society of London, 1893, p. 228, for an account of several conversions to Buddhism, notably the case of a Mr. Powell at Colombo. It was in the *Light of Asia* by Sir Edwin Arnold, possibly a great poet, undoubtedly a fanatic and a dilettante, that this so called *clergyman* found his primrose path). In Ceylon, the movement has several organs, both Singhalese and English, notably the *Buddhist* of Colombo, founded in 1888, patronised and more or less inspired by Colonel Olcott; a paper which, as the title shows, represents more especially militant Buddhism. In Bengal the Maha Bodhi Society spreads the propaganda. Founded originally in Colombo, Ceylon, in the year 1891, this Society has its alleged headquarters at Buddha Gaya in Bihar, but its actual centre is in Calcutta. Its patron is the great Lama of Tibet; its president the Mahathera Sumangala of Ceylon; its Vice-presidents the highest ecclesiastics of the Burma, Japan, China and Ceylon churches; its director and counsellor-in-chief, Colonel Olcott; its Secretary General, Mr. H. Dharmapala, who is also the principal editor of its organ *The Journal of the Maha-Bodhi Society* (1st number, Calcutta, May 1892), and represented it at the Chicago Congress. Besides the general aim of propagandism, it has, as a special object, the founding of an international Buddhist College at Buddha-Gaya, and the consequent restoration to all Buddhism (the English administration would, indeed, call it by no other name) of the great temple so recently rebuilt and for long occupied by *Saivite* priests: for it must be known that there is nowhere in the whole country a single *authentic* Buddhist to be found unless possibly when Mr Dharmapala happens to be in the way. Mr. Olcott himself pleaded the cause of this emancipation in an address delivered by him at Calcutta on the 24th October 1892 (*The Buddhist Catechism and Buddhism*, Calcutta 1893). It is evidently the particular object dear to his heart. But what is most interesting is the grand bequest language which fills the pages of the journal, unless my memory, hardly dependable, of its strong Buddhist flavour against Mahomedanism. Still by the way this observation and impression, the result of a hurried visit to Calcutta, which I have not confirmed. The *Buddhist Text Society of India*, which, as its name implies, proposes to publish works on the history of Buddhism and the Buddhist religion from the Sanskrit, Pali, and Tibetan sources, I have already mentioned as the work which it has begun. There is, however, every reason to fear a certain want of experience in that line and in the general treatment of the Journal. Whilst on the one hand we are given excellent selections, such as the *Vimuttimagga*, there are others most insignificant, especially when served up in a fragmentary form, for instance the extracts of Kshemendra. May it for the future show more austerity, and devote itself towards exploiting in the true interests of history the great field lying open before it, without seeking to dabble in easy folklore or in direct propagandism: then its usefulness will be unquestioned. The less resemblance it bears to its twin-sister, the Maha Bodhi Society, the better both for itself and for us."

Letters to the Editor.

"AN INDIAN JOURNALIST."

Budapest University,
November 15, 1895.

DEAR SIR,---I have just finished reading Mr. Skrine's interesting book on the life of Dr. Mookerjee, and I cannot refrain from giving you some of the impressions the biographical details of your late editor have left upon me. The effect of a book is always in connection with the bias and tendencies of the reader, and it is very natural that everybody tries to pick out from the store offered to him the information mostly needed for the completion of his studies. Being a many years' student of the life and languages of Eastern peoples I gather from the biographical sketch, and particularly from the correspondence of the late Dr. Mookerjee, experiences which are unique in their way. In spite of the special attention I have paid hitherto to the life and doings of Indian men of eminence, like the late Sir T. Madava Rao, Sir Salar Jung, Dr. Rajendralala Mitra and of others still living, I dare to affirm that the late Dr. Mookerjee stands out, in many points, from his famous countrymen, and as a journalist he ranks amongst the first of his colleagues in Europe. What strikes me particularly in his remarkable personality, is his extensive reading in various branches of science, his unprejudiced opinion on men and matters absolutely heterogenous from the peculiar views in which he was brought up, and above all his liberal mode of thinking in religious matters, although he kept faithfully to the Brahmanic dogma, remaining always a thorough Indian. Excepting his love of change and his want of steadily persevering in one career, there is nothing that denotes in him the Eastern character, nothing that reminds one of the shortcomings of many Turks, Arabs, Persians and Central-Asiatics, who took to an assiduous study of our Western life and sciences and still remained Asiatics at the bottom of their hears, I mean to say that they failed to penetrate the real spirit of modern civilisation and were always wavering between the two theories of light and culture. Dr. Mookerjee must, therefore, be looked upon as an exception to the rule and as an evident proof of the fact that the subtle mind of an Asiatic is easily turned into a thoroughly European one, and that, owing to the innate perspicacity of Asiatics in general, he can even surpass his teachers and serve as a bright example to those who believe in the possibility of a radical change of men in Asia.

The life of the late Dr. Mookerjee may serve, on the other hand, as an encouragement to England's civilising efforts in the East. Pardon my want of modesty in saying that it is a justification of the views I have been defending for decades---that the British spirit of enterprise, of justice and of liberty is best suited for the promulgation of our Western culture in Asia. Tell me, can France, Russia and Holland boast of having produced men like the late Dr. Mookerjee? I am fully aware of the many mistakes committed by the English in India. I cannot find sufficient blame and reproach for the cold and haughty behaviour of the average Englishmen towards the natives of India---but the efficient result of British rule is nevertheless undeniable. England is achieving a master-piece of work in the heart of Asia, and if the process of civilisation can go on undisturbedly we shall live to see many Indians, both Mussalmans and Hindus, like the hero of Mr. Skrine's book. I beg to remain,

Yours obediently,
A. VAMBERY.

A MUNICIPAL GRIEVANCE.

Balasore, the 30th Nov. 1895.

Some ten years ago necessity being felt for a slaughter house within the Municipality of Balasore the then Municipal Board selected a site by the side of a road and in the vicinity of a Hindu village and built a slaughter house there ignoring the entreaties of the Hindu community. Not only did it give a shock to the Hindus but also the hide godowns attached to the slaughter house rendered the neighbourhood unhealthy and became a source of continual annoyance and a nuisance. When the people began to complain of the stink that came from the hide godowns no body heeded them on the ground that the municipality in removing the slaughter house and the hide godowns would be put to an unnecessary additional expense. But when Babu Raj Narayan Das, an influential Zamindar of the town, came forward with an offer of defraying all the expenses of the removal, recourse was had to the plea of want of a more eligible site.

How far the municipality was in earnest in the reply will appear from the fact that when subsequently Mr. Gregg, the Sanitary Commissioner, came to the town and Babu Radha Charan Das shewed him the slaughter house and a secluded place a few hundred cubits off, he quite approved of the place and suggested the removal of the slaughter house there. Still no action was taken.

But thanks to a change in the Municipal Board and to the liberality of Babu Raj Narayan Das and his nephew Babu Radha Charan Das, this great nuisance is about to be removed to a place where there is no chance of its wounding the feeling of any Hindu neighbour or causing annoyance to any villager or passer by. Babu Radha Charan Das has paid to the Municipality about Rs. 1,000 to acquire a piece of land and to build a new slaughter house. We hope our Government will take notice of this liberality and thank the donors on behalf of the Hindu inhabitants of the town.---Yours, &c.,

PUBLIC SENTIMENT.

ST. ANDREW'S DINNER.

THE TOAST OF "THE VICEROY AND THE LAND WE LIVE IN."

The Chairman, the Hon'ble P. Playfair, who was received with loud applause, said:---Gentlemen, in accordance with traditional custom observed at this National Festival, I have now the honour to propose the toast of---"His Excellency the Viceroy, and the Land we live in." I suppose that comparatively few people in India, and fewer still in England, realise the unceasing toil of office work that devolves upon the Viceroy of India, imposing a physical and mental strain of such severity as might reasonably deter many a statesman from accepting the high office. Lord Elgin's experience has been no exception to this rule. It was no enviable situation for a new Viceroy to find his Minister for Finance in the words of Sir Robert Peel---"seated in an empty chest by the pool of bottomless deficiency, fishing for a budget" (laughter), and to have to resort to the unpopular expedient of increasing taxation. But with that kind of determination on the part of the Government of India that "aye keeps a stout heart to a stey brae" the difficulties of the situation were grappled with.

In the short time His Excellency has held office two events have happened that must take a place in History. The one has meant the important annual saving of nearly fifty lakhs of rupees by a reduction of interest on the India debt, a measure redounding, as His Excellency has gracefully acknowledged, to the credit of the Minister for Finance, our fellow countrymen, the Hon. Sir James Westland (cheers).

The other important event has unfortunately caused a large expenditure of money in a war with some of the Border Tribes.

The Chitral campaign has elicited our admiration of the gallantry and endurance displayed in both British and Native Troops. As a measure of experience, or as a test of armament and transport it may have been useful, but still we must regret that it should have become necessary to proceed so far, at a time when the treasury could but ill afford to meet the cost, and that the result should be an additional annual burden on the finances of the State.

It is very evident that like the little boy with Pears' Soap the Government of India would not be happy till they got Chitral, and as the sequel to the picture shows that the little lad was satisfied with the prize sought for and did not ask for more, it is to be hoped that the Government of India has now completed the annexation of necessary frontier outposts (applause).

Associated with the decision to retain Chitral, there comes a degree of satisfaction to those who hold the theory that good Government for India means Government by men on the spot (hear, hear), that with their return to office Her Majesty's Ministers did not attempt to override by mandate the opinion deliberately and unanimously formed by the Governor-General and his Council.

It has been a General complaint of past years that India and her affairs have had but an indefinite place of interest in the mind of the British public. A welcome change seems to be taking place, if we are entitled to draw this conclusion from the frequency with which articles on Indian subjects appear in magazines and newspapers at Home from the pen of politicians, financiers, investors and manufacturers. The views expressed for the most part seem however to indicate the personal interest only which each writer has in the country. There is the prophet of insolvency who predicts a universal distrust in Government Securities if the expenditure on the Army and Civil Service is not reduced; the pessimist who looks forward to invasion and decay; while on the other hand the investor and manufacturer apprehend an important rivalry from increasing prosperity to India.

One of the most interesting questions associated with the "Land we live in," the growing importance of which is, as I have said, attracting attention from without, is the prospect that is being unfolded to India of a revival of industrial enterprise (hear, hear).

India has begun to realise that through the adoption of the power-loom she may reinstate in another form, those employments that have been lost to her for a time by the annexations of western science. We all know that the absence of industrial enterprise is not a natural thing to India (hear), and that it has long been recognised that she may recover her lost industries as a relief to the pressure on the land and with benefit to the landless classes. England, under her beneficent principles of free trade, has assisted India towards this prospect. In addition to a flow of capital and supplies of machinery and tools there has been a steady stream of British, and for the most part Scots artisans picked workmen coming to India to educate and supervise the Native operative to whom the credit of reviving India's industrial enterprise is in a great measure due. This free transfer of capital, in its fullest sense has superseded the "sole market policy" adopted some generations ago when the exportation of machinery and materials used for warfare and the emigration of an artisan to a foreign and possibly hostile country was a grave and punishable offence. I venture to say, gentlemen that the party at Home that now attempts to let its voice be heard by complaining of British Capital in India allied to unjust laws having an unfair advantage over British Capital at Home hampered by British law, betrays a degree of self interest too clearly discernible to be likely to induce the British nation to go back upon its free trade principles and differentiate between a colonial and an Indian policy of trade (loud cheers). You will all agree with me I think that none of us came to reside in this country for change of air, and that in our endeavours to earn a living we wish to be placed in no worse a position than our fellow countrymen occupy in the Colonies, and to be looked upon with no greater jealousy. In attempting thus to help ourselves we have the satisfaction of knowing that we are also benefiting a large number of Her Majesty's Indian subjects.

In an epigram a modern writer refers to the competition in industrial enterprise between the East and West as a conflict between "the white man with his yellow metal and the yellow man with his white metal"; but favoured with cheap labour, cheap fuel and possessed of the raw material is it to be wondered that India should arouse herself to make use of these resources? And is it surprising that a frugal people, endowed with patience, and the faculty of imitation, finding a means of reviving an hereditary trade should attempt to re establish the manufacture of the coarser description of cotton and jute fabrics in India? (applause)

I have referred to the opposition that has been advanced at Home, and I would add that it can only be regarded as a misfortune when a conflict arises from commercial competition between the mother country and any of her colonies or dependencies, and especially so when India is concerned (applause). It would be unnatural did we not feel sympathy for our own kith and kin when overtaken by such competition. Their permanent misfortune would amount to a calamity. And in addition to this the position in which India stands to Great Britain entitles the interests of Great Britain's commerce to a consideration that cannot be disputed. This position was set forth with frankness by Mr. Samuel Laing speaking from his place in the Legislative Council as Minister for Finance 33 years ago, when he said "he could not deny that England having founded the Indian Empire and being ready to sustain it, and having given up all pretensions of exacting tribute as Holland does from Java, or Spain from Cuba, and all claims on a monopoly of the Indian market and carrying trade may with some reason ask India so to levy the necessary revenue as not to interfere with trade between the two countries." (Hear, hear).

India's trade has never had protection, nor in the late discussion on the Cotton Duties Bill was protection sought, but as it has been acknowledged that the wealth of India like all other countries is in proportion not only to its natural resources out to the degree of liberty it may possess in the use of these resources, she claimed that liberty and nothing less. (Cheers.) And gentlemen, I apprehend that were India's natural advantages handicapped by unnecessary legislation, it would in all probability be more to the benefit of her competitors in the Far East and to producers on the Continent of Europe than to British trade. (Hear, hear) The Indian Consumer regards price more than quality on which account he is content with cheap manufactures. The Bombay Spinners have already found successful rivals in the Cotton Mills of China and Japan. Japan has asserted her position as a manufacturer and with increased knowledge of the craft is relying upon quality to sell her wares and is abandoning that artifice of spurious imitation and piracy with which she began to trade. Having acquired Formosa, "the granary of China," rich in coal, petroleum and sulphur, Japan is likely to assert herself still further in the manufacture of textiles in the East.

But there is a great force lying alongside of Japan that has hardly as yet been set in motion. Japan may prove to have been merely the pioneer and the late war the herald of a new era. If China with her industrious and thrifty millions (hear) overcomes her superstitious dread of opening mines and prosecutes the textile industry on which she has already embarked, she must become a potent factor as a producer. And this may happen soon. If the treaty of peace with Japan secures to that nation and therefore to the subject of the treaty powers, under the most favoured nation clause, liberty to engage in manufactures in China without tax or licence fees, it is certain that Germans and Americans will also enter the field of industrial enterprise and British-Indian, as well as British Manufacturers and Merchants will have to face the strength of foreign competition, it may be in woolen, silk and jute, as well as in cotton fabrics. (Hear, hear.) With this prospect, gentlemen, I think you will permit me to say that the industrial enterprise of India not only requires absolute freedom from unnecessary restraint and factious interference, (loud cheers) but is also deserving of all the fostering care that can be bestowed upon it (hear, hear). In demanding liberty to control our factories, I do not mean to advocate anything approaching the working day of 21½ hours work (laughter and applause) as in China, nor am I personally in favour of night work, which is I believe frequently bad work, (cheers) as I hold by the adage of the good old nursery rhyme—"early to bed, and early to rise, makes a man healthy, wealthy, and wise." (Laughter and applause.) What I desire to affirm is, that England cannot hope to retain the Eastern markets exclusively for her manufactures and that if India is not allowed the fullest liberty to conduct her industries in accordance with the customs of her people, her industrial trade abroad and perhaps also at Home, will be annexed by her competitors in the Far East. This view of the case I consider should be pressed upon the attention of the British public. We have perhaps been negligent in recognizing the necessity of doing so, in having failed to appreciate the growing relationship that exists between commerce and politics and its governing influence.

Having said so much with regard to the prospect of an enlarged area of supply, I do not intend to forecast a downfall of British trade with the East. With her skilled labour, natural resources, scientific inventions to effect economy in the employment of labour, and by her financial strength and geographical position, England will continue to hold her industrial supremacy. (Loud cheers.)

The field in India is fortunately very wide and there must be possibilities for the extensive development of British trade when, according to an estimate recently made by Lancashire manufacturers the total quantity of cloth annually consumed in India does not exceed 8½ yards per head of the population. And as to the united value of India's production and importation of yarns and textiles does not represent Rs. 1 2 0 per head, the outlet, as it has been said, would appear to be in the clothing of those who are now unclothed.

Gentlemen, you know the old proverb "far away birds have fine feathers," and it would seem to be the case when we find the British public eager to subscribe £1½ millions sterling to a Uganda Railway, (laughter) and discussing with urgency proposals for the construction of a line through Burmah to China, when there are extensive and thickly populated tracts of country throughout the Indian Empire that are practically inaccessible for the want of Railway communication. Bengal itself is exceptionally badly off for Railways (Hear, hear.) It has only one mile of Railway for every 29,000 souls; a condition that in the interests of humanity is hazardous in a country whose people are almost wholly dependant upon agriculture. Bombay is better off than Bengal, for with ½rd of the population it has one mile of Railway to 8,000 souls. Madras with little more than ½ of the population of Bengal has one mile of Railway to 13,000 souls. The Punjab which has a population of ½rd of that of Bengal has one mile to 11,000 souls (A voice: What about Assam?) I haven't got the figures for Assam, sir.

I see many in this Hall who have not considered that the State Railway serving the eastern districts of Bengal has met the requirements of commerce.

And you are aware that for many years the merchants of Calcutta have asked for an additional line of communication to Northern India with its own separate entrance to the Port and that this is still denied to them. Picture to yourselves a Province lying between Calcutta and the North-West of 43,000 square miles

containing 5½ million people or an area half as large again as Scotland with a population ⅓rd greater, the Commissioner of which has as a means of locomotion when inspecting the Districts, and it may be in reaching a parade ground, or in approaching a durbar what he describes as "a sort of attenuated bathing machine (laughter) dragged by coolies at the rate of 3 miles an hour." (Renewed laugther.) One line of railway to Upper India is considered sufficient for the communications of a population of 100 millions with a port whose annual sea-borne trade is valued at Rs. 85 crores, employing four millions tons of shipping. Imagine Russia with one trunk railway. Can you imagine that the commerce and travelling facilities of France, Germany, Italy, and England, each with a population less than one half of that I have mentioned, should be so restricted. That in this age of commercial competition between countries the attempt should be made to compel marchandise by official dictation to follow a prescribed channel "is one of those things" as Lord Dundreary would have said, "that no feller can understand." (Laughter and applause.) You have the Jubilee Bridge on your outskirts, the Kidderpur Docks in your midst and that colossal white elephant the Assam Bengal Railway (cheers and laughter) in prospective, creations of the official mind that have not as yet come within the sphere of usefulness. It would be natural to suppose that such costly experience would have made the official bureau less self-reliant when dealing with questions affecting Calcutta which must always be in the main questions of commerce. But the battle has still to be fought out. And if perchance, gentlemen, it is won and the possibility averted of Lord Macaulay's South Sea Islander extending his travels to seat himself on Prinsep's Ghat to depict the ruins of Chowringhee, and the blown out furnaces of John King & Co,'s foundry (loud laughter) what opinion is posterity likely to hold of the end of the nineteenth century when India's commerce was dominated by gold braid and a Woolwich training? (Laughter and applause.)

These matters, gentlemen, should be of much concern to Government for the good of the "Land we live in," as it is from the agriculture and commerce of the country that the revenues are supplied.

And, gentlemen, if India is making progress in mechanical knowledge, she has also by the unostentatious industry of a large body of public servants (applause) risen to the pleasing position of receiving the congratulations of the President of the deputation of British Association upon her practical adaptation of scientific invention. It was a pleasant corollary to Mr. P. V. Luke's lecture on field telegraphy delivered before that august assembly last September, that he should have elicited such a compliment. (Hear, hear). Since last St. Andrew's Anniversary a Medical Congress has assembled in this city that has testified to the civilized world the existence of one of greatest benefactions that has been conferred upon the people of the "Land we live in" by the British administration. I refer to the medical relief directed by the State. (Cheers). It may be good for the "Land we live in" that it should be visited by such scientists as met at the Congress and become better known generally to our countrymen at home. It is not to be wondered at that our beautiful winter climate should attract our fellow countrymen and others in increasing numbers from the winter fogs and frosts of home. India can offer attractions to the beau and the belle as well as to the savant and the sportsman; and in winter it is neither to be despised as a place of residence nor as a ground for exploration. (Applause). If we are round blithe and gay, it is a salutary reaction after a long period of confinement, during which we have been roasted, boiled, and stewed, to a degree, that can hardly be realized without having been experienced. (Hear, hear), If it would be extreme to characterise that experience as a writer lately heard Hong Kong described in "a monosyllabic adaptation of the ultimate destination of the incorrigibly unrighteous," (loud laughter) we could not at all events have brought ourselves during these seasoning months to chant the motto of the Dewani-Khas at Delhi. ("If there be paradise on earth, it is this, it is this, it is this"). (Applause). With depreciated silver the cost of a visit to India is not terrifying to the fortunate recipient of an income in gold, so long as Mrs. Monk and the management of the Great Eastern Hotel do not demand gold rents (laughter) from those who do not find accommodation with friends. The Anglo-Indian has hitherto held the enjoyable reputation of keeping open house according to his means (hear, hear), and although the latter, as heaven full well knows, has more frequently shrunk than increased of late years, he has not relaxed his efforts to continue to entertain the stranger within his gates. It is hard lines if by doing so he is afterwards compelled to defend himself and his income against those who he finds to his dismay have made use of his home in the nature of a caravanserai. (Cheers). Although such instances have occurred, they are fortunately few. The good fellowship of the Anglo-Indian is meant to be received in as kindly a spirit as it is given by the words of our National Poet

> "But ye whom social pleasures charm,
> Whose heart the tide of kindness warms,
> Who hold your being on these terms
> Each aid the others
> Come to my bowl, come to my arms,
> My friends, my brothers."---(Loud cheers).

Gentlemen,---In these imperfect remarks I have attempted to show that the "Land we live in," although offering many attractions, is only half developed and partially exploited. For the position she has already attained in the civilized world, the credit is due to those who make up the races of the United Kingdom. To borrow a simile of a modern statesman, India has received the benefit of the strong sagacity, staunch, through going character, sobriety, and seriousness, of the habitual temper of Scotsmen, while she has perhaps been taught by the English, to take a rider view of her political problems, and a broader conception of her Imperial destiny, and has been sharpened by being brought into contact with the quicker, the more agile, and the more ready witted character of the Irish, who have brought their imagination and diplomacy to advance her best interests. Long may India enjoy such benefits derived from the people of the United Kingdom (Loud cheers).

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A lady, whose name we are permitted to mention, will not soon forget the spring of 1890. It was then that for the first time in her life she was afraid to be left alone; not from fear of enemies, but from sheer nervous excitement. She was obliged to have elastic put into her slippers to let them out—her feet were swollen so; and her hands were in the same condition. In the morning her face would puff up and large lumps form under her eyes and on her cheeks. Then a rash made its appearance all over her body, vanishing again almost immediately, as a blush comes and goes on the face.

The suddenness of this she compares to the sting of a wasp or hornet. An intense itching accompanied it, so she could not lie in bed or be quiet in any position on account of it. She was in misery night and day, and scarcely knew what to do with herself. Her legs got so painful and felt so tired she was put to it to get about. For eighteen months (it must have seemed like as many years) she was tormented in this way.

Meanwhile she consulted two doctors, and attended successively at the Newcastle Infirmary and at the Dispensary. But nothing more than temporary ease came of the treatment they gave her. The doctors recommended a change of air, and in August, 1891, she went to North Sunderland. She found relief at that place, but not from the air.

Now we must get back to the spring of 1890, and inquire what, if anything, preceded this strange outbreak. At that time, the lady says, she first felt languid, tired, and constantly sleepy. She was troubled with bad headaches and attacks of giddiness. Her appetite failed; she could eat but little, and after eating had a feeling of weight and fulness at the chest and sides. Her whole system was depressed, and the life in her appeared to sink, as the water does in a cistern where there exists a hidden leak somewhere. Then came what has already been described.

At North Sunderland, whither she went for a change of air, she met a gentleman named Cathcart, who expressed a most intelligent opinion of her case and advised the use of Mother Seigel's Curative Syrup. Convinced by his reasoning she procured a supply of this well-known remedy and began taking it.

Her letter concludes in these words: "After I had used the Syrup only a few days I felt a decided improvement in all respects. My appetite revived, my food digested better, and soon the rash and lumps entirely disappeared to return no more. I have since enjoyed the best of health. You are at liberty to make my statement public if you think it may be useful to others. (Signed) Mrs. Sarah Charleton, 27, John Street, Arthur's Hill, Newcastle, February 7th, 1893."

We congratulate this lady on her recovery and thank her for allowing us to publish the above details of her experience. The doctors called her ailment nettle rash, but it was more than that. Her blood was loaded with the poisonous acids generated by indigestion and dyspepsia—the same as the poisons of gout and of acute inflammatory rheumatism. The irritated nerves of the skin produced the rash, as the clogged pores were unable to excrete the poison. The purifying power of Seigel's Syrup expelled this poison through the kidneys and bowels, and by stimulating insensible perspiration over the whole surface of the skin.

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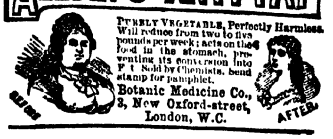

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AN INDIAN JOURNALIST:

Life, Letters and Correspondence

OF

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late Editor of "Reis and Rayyet,"

BY

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CORRESPONDENCE OF DR. S. C. MOOKERJEE.

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to, from Ardagh, Col. Sir J C,
to Atkinson, the late Mr. E.E.E., C.S.,
to Banerjee, Babu Jyotish Chunder
from Banerjee, the late Revd. Dr, K. M.
to Banerjee, Babu Sivodaprasad.
from Bell, the late Major Evans.
from Bhaddoor, Chief of
to Bunga Krishna, Raja.
to Chela, Rai Bahadur Ananda.
to Chatterjee, Mr. K M.
from Clarke, Mr S E J.
from, to Colvin, Sir Auckland.
to, from Dufferin and Ava, the Marquis of.
from Evans, the Hon'ble Sir Griffith H.P.
to Ganguli, Babu Kisari Mohan.
to Ghose, Babu Nabu Kissen.
to Ghosh, Babu Kali Prosanna.
to Graham, Mr. W.
from Griffin, Sir Lepel.
from Guha, Babu Saroda Kant.
to Hall, Dr Fitz Edward.
from Hume, Mr Allan O.
from Hunter, Sir W W.
to Jenkins, Mr. Edward.
to Jung, the late Nawab Sir Salar.
to Knight, Mr. Paul,
from Knight, the late Mr Robert
from Lansdowne, the Marquis of.
to Law, Kumar Krishodas.
to Lyon, Mr. Percy C.
to Mahomed, Moulvi Syed.
to Mallik, Mr. H. C.
to Marston, Miss Ann.
from Mehta, Mr R D
to Mitra, the Late Raja Dr. Rajendralala
to Mookerjee, Late Raja Dakhinaranjan.
from Mookerjee, Mr. J C
from M'Neil, Professor H (San Francisco)
to, from Murshidabad, the Nawab Bahadoor of
from Nayaratna, Mahamahopadhya M C
from Osborn, the Late Colonel Robert D.
to Rao, Mr G Venkata Appa.
to Rao, the Late Sir T. Madhava.
to Rattigan, Sir William H.
from Rosebery, Earl of.
to, from Routledge, Mr. James.
from Russell, Sir W H.
to Roy, Mr G Sreenath
to Sastri, the Hon'ble A Sashiah
to Sinha, Babu Brahmananda.
from Sircar, Dr. Mahendralal
from Stanley, Lord, of Alderley.
from, to Townsend, Mr Meredith
to Underwood, Captain T. O.
to, from Vambéry, Professor Arminius.
to Venkatramaiah, Mr G.
to Vizianagram, Maharaja of.
to, from Wallace, Sir Donald Mackenzie
to Wood-Mason, the Late Professor J.

LETTERS & TELEGRAMS) OF CONDOLENCE, from

Abdus Subhan, Moulvi A K. M.
Ameer Hossein, Hon'ble Nawab Syed.
Ardagh, Colonel Sir J C
Banerjee, Babu Manmathnath.
Banerjee, Rai Bahadur, Shib Chunder.
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Ghosh, Babu Kali Prasanna.
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Mookerjee, Raja Peary Mohan.
Mookerjee, Babu Surendra Nath.
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OPINION ON THE BOOK

It is a most interesting record of the life of a remarkable man —Mr H Babington Smith, Private Secretary to the Viceroy, 5th October, 1895

Dr Mookerjee was a famous letter-writer, and there is a breezy freshness and originality about his correspondence which make it very interesting reading —Sir Alfred W Croft, K C I E, Director of Public Instuction, Bengal, 26th September, 1895.

It is not that amid the pressure of harassing official duties an English Civilian can find either time or opportunity to pay so graceful a tribute to the memory of a native personality as F. H Skrine has done in his biography of the late Dr. Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee, the well known Bengal journalist (Calcutta: Thacker, Spink and Co); nor are there many who are more worthy of being thus honoured than the late Editor of *Reis and Rayyet*.

We may at any rate cordially agree with Mr. Skrine that the story of Mookerjee's life, with all its lights and shadows, is pregnant with lessons for those who desire to know the real India

No weekly paper, Mr Skrine tells us, not even the *Hindoo Patriot*, in its palmiest days under Kristodas Pal, enjoyed a degree of influence in any way approaching that which was soon attained by *Reis and Rayyet*.

A man of large heart and great qualities, his death from pneumonia in the early spring in the first year was a distinct and heavy loss to Indian journalism, and it was an admirable idea on Mr Skrine's part to put his Life and Letters upon record —The *Times of India*, (Bombay) September 30, 1895

It is rarely that the life of an Indian journalist becomes worthy of publication; it is more rarely still that such a life comes to be written by an Anglo-Indian and a member of the Indian Civil Service But, it has come to pass that in the land of the Bengali Babus, the life of at least one man among Indian journalists has been considered worthy of being written by an Englishman —The *Madras Standard*, (Madras) September 30, 1895

The late Editor of *Reis and Rayyet* was a profound student and an accomplished writer, who has left his mark on Indian journalism In that he has found a Critic like Mr. Skrine to record the story of his life he is more fortunate than the great Kristodas Pal himself.—The *Tribune*, (Lahore) October 2, 1895.

For much of the biographical matter that issues so freely from the press in apology is needed. Had no biography of Dr. Mookerjee, the Editor of *Reis and Rayyet*, appeared, an explanation would have been looked for. A man of his remarkable personality, who was easily first among native Indian journalists, and in many respects occupied a higher plane than they did, and looked at public affairs from a different point of view from theirs, could not be suffered to sink into oblivion without some

attempt to perpetuate his memory by the usual expedient of a "life." The difficulties common to all biographers have in this case been increased by special circumstances, not the least of which is that the author belongs to a different race from the subject. It is true that among Englishmen there were many admirers of the learned Doctor, and that he on his side understood the English character as few foreigners understand it. But in spite of this and his remarkable assimilation of English modes of thought and expression, Dr. Mookerjee remained to the last a Brahman of the Brahmans—a conservation of the best of his inheritance that wins nothing but respect and approval. In consequence of this, his ideal biographer would have been one of his own disciples, with the same inherited sympathies, and trained like him in Western learning. If Bengal had produced such another man as Dr. Mookerjee, it was he who should have written his life.

The biography is warmly appreciative without being needlessly laudatory; it gives on the whole a complete picture of the man; and in the book there is not a dull page.

A few of the letters addressed to Dr. Mookerjee are of such minor importance that they might have been omitted with advantage, but not a word of his own letters could have been spared. To say that he writes idiomatic English is to say what is short of the truth. His diction is easy and correct, clear and straightforward, without Oriental luxuriance or striving after effect. Perhaps he is never so charming as when he is laying down the laws of literary form to young aspirants to fame. The letter on page 285, for instance, is a delightful piece of criticism: it is delicate plain-speaking, and he accomplishes the difficult feat of telling a would-be poet that his productions are not in the smallest degree poetry, without one may conclude, either offending the youth or repressing his ardour.

For much more that is well worth reading we must refer readers to the volume itself. Intrinsically it is a book worth buying and reading. —The *Pioneer*, (Allahabad) Oct. 5, 1895.

The career of "An Indian Journalist" as described by F. H. Skrine of the Indian Civil Service is exceedingly interesting.

Mookerjee's letters are marvels of pure diction which is heightened by his nervous style.

The life has been told by Mr. Skrine in a very pleasant manner and which should make it popular not only with Bengalis but with all those who are able to appreciate merit unmarred by ostentation and earnestness unspoiled by harshness.—The *Muhammadan*, (Madras) Oct. 5, 1895.

The work leaves nothing to be desired either in the way of completeness, impartiality, or lifelike portrayal of character.

Mr. Skrine deals with his interesting subject with the unfailing instinct of the biographer. Every side of Dr. Mookerjee's complex character is treated with sympathy tempered by discrimination.

Mr. Skrine's narrative certainly impresses one with the individuality of a remarkable man.

Mookerjee's own letters show that he had not only acquired a command of clear and flexible English but that he had also assimilated that sturdy independence of thought and character which is supposed to be a peculiar possession of natives of Great Britain. His reading and the stores of his general information appear to have been, considering his opportunities, little less than marvellous.

One of the first to express his condolence with the family of the deceased writer was the present Viceroy, Lord Elgin. Mookerjee appears to have won the affection not only of the dignitaries with whom he came in contact, but also of those in low estate.

The impression left upon the mind upon laying down the book is that of a good and able man whose career has been graphically portrayed.—The *Englishman*, (Calcutta) October 15, 1895.

The career of an eminent Bengali editor, who died in 1894, throws a curious light upon the race elements and hereditary influences which affect the criticisms of Indian journalists on British rule.

The "Life and Letters of Dr. S. C. Mookerjee," a book just edited by a distinguished civilian in Calcutta, takes us behind the scenes of Indian journalism.

It is a narrative, written with insight and a complete mastery of the facts, of how a clever youth gradually grew into one of the ablest leader-writers in Bengal, and still more gradually matured into one of the fairest-minded editors that western education in India has yet produced. If the training and experience which develop the journalist in England are sometimes varied, they seem in India to have an even wider range.

But the object of this notice is to show how a great Bengali journalist is made; space forbids us to enter upon his actual performances. They will be found set forth at sufficient length, and with much felicity of expression, in Mr. Skrine's admirable monograph. It is characteristic of the noble service to which Mr. Skrine belongs, that such a book should have issued from its ranks. Dr. Mookerjee was no optimist. One of his brilliant speeches contained the following sentence:—"India has neither the soil nor the elasticity enjoyed by young and vigorous communities, but present the arid rocks and deserts of an effete civilization, hardly stirred to a semblance of life by a foreign occupation dozing over its easily-gained advantages." This was true of the pre-Mutiny India of 1851. If it is no longer true of the Queen's India of 1895, we owe it in no small measure to Indian journalists like Dr. Mookerjee who have laboured, amid some misrepresentation, to quicken the "semblance of life" into a living reality.—The *Times*, (London) October 14, 1895.

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WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

VOL. XIV. CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14, 1895. WHOLE NO. 703.

CONTEMPORARY POETRY.

THE SUNYASSEE.

BY JAMES HUTCHINSON.

(Concluded from p 555.)

CANTO THIRD.

XIV.

My journeyings, it were vain, to tell,
Or where they led, or what befell ;
I've watched the Ganges' infant flow,
Where Koosh is clad, in endless snow, *
Aye ! trod the Caspian's tideless shore,
And heard the Euxine's breakers roar ; †
I've bowed me, in Ellora's cave,
And prayed, above a Moslem's grave ; ‡
For sure, the semblance of a shrine
Must, ever, wake some thoughts divine ;
If pure the heart, what recks the spot ?
There is no place,—where God is not !

XV.

I boast not of my wanderings past,
And, now, the present seems the last.
A native of my loved Behar,
Where the sun shines, with genial beam,
Why did I seek thy wilds, Cachar !
Or the marshes of the Soormah's stream ? §
Stranger ! thou seest these wooded heights,
And yon thatched shed, amid the waste ?
'Twas there, for thirty days, and nights,
I dwelt, in vigil, and in fast—
A mighty spirit slumbers there,
Who spent a tedious life, in prayer,
And, ever, since he died,
They say, that from the mountain's side,
Sweet Uttur hath been seen, to flow,
In yon small well, below. * *
Aye ! they may doubt ; but this I know,
I saw the Tiger, round me, prowl,
I heard the Wolves around me howl ;
And, yet, they had no power to harm,
For I was girt, as by a charm.
Oft, as their footsteps nearer closed,
Some unseen power, still, interposed,
I scarce knew how ; 'tis true, men say,
That o'er the good, these have no sway ;
But even, if, for the guilty, sent, †
I scarce could deem me innocent ;
Even so ; tho' these have missed their prey,
Disease, as fell, hath found its way.

XVI.

'Tis destiny, thus urges on,
When, most, we deem the act our own ;
Leads us unconscious to our fate,
Nor shows the gulf, till all too late ;
Yet deem not stranger, that I fear,
Altho' perhaps, my end be near ;
Oh ! I have often prayed, for death,
As eagerly, as some for life ;
Aye ! thought to rid me of my breath,
When weary of this mortal strife.
'Tis true, that, even for the brave,
Some terrors, still, that change must have ;
Yet deem not thence, that I would buy
A respite, for a single day ;
With none to share it with,—as now,
What were a crown, upon my brow ?
For what, then, should I pray, in vain ?
To bear my miseries, again ?
Drag on, in pain, a few brief years,
And, at the thought of sufferings past,
Moisten the dull earth, with my tears,
Which must receive my dust,—at last ?

XVII.

The coward part was never mine,
To rail, at fortune, or repine ;

* The Koosh of the Hindoos in the Caucasus of the western world.

† It is said, that these indomitable fanatics and wanderers, in their roamings, sometimes go as far, as the limits here indicated.

‡ For an account of these magnificent temples or excavations, see Captain Seeley's Wonders of Ellora.

The Hindoos and Moosulmans are now to a certain extent tolerant ; they mutually pay some degree of respect to each other's festivals, and they have, in like manner, in some measure adopted the customs of each other. The Hindoos now seclude their women, almost as much as the Moohummudans ; on the other hand, no widow of the latter faith now thinks of taking a second husband although the prophet of Mecca himself married the widow Ayesha.

§ Behar was one of the Soubahs or Soubahdarees of the Mogul empire. It is a rich, and extensive province, situated about the middle of Gangetic India. By the natives, its climate is considered neither very hot, nor cold ; it is as healthy for them, as almost any other portion of India. The real capital of the province is the overgrown city of Patna ; this however constitutes a separate jurisdiction of itself, and Gyah is now the provincial capital of the district of Behar.

The valley of Cachar is situated, on our eastern frontier, between Sylhet and Munnipore ; the Soormah or Barák river runs through the middle of the valley, which is marshy, and the climate moist and insalubrious, in the extreme, to the natives of Hindoosthan ; although it is not so, to Europeans.

* The locality, here indicated, is situated among the wooded heights on the left bank of one of the feeders of the Soormah or Barák, about three miles above the village of Panchgong, in Cachar. The fakeers there show a small phial, which, they say, contains uttur, which has been skimmed off, from a small well, which they point out. If not some priestly imposition, the pretended uttur is probably nothing else than a little naphtha, or petroleum. In the Burmese empire, which lies to the eastward of Cachar, it is well known, that the greater portion of the petroleum of commerce is found.

† Tigers abound in Cachar, and are exceedingly destructive, both to man and beast. The natives of the place entertain a belief, similar to that mentioned in the text, an opinion, which probably forms no inconsiderable portion of the basis of the moral code of that simple people.

Subscribers in the country are requested to remit by postal money orders, if possible, as the safest and most convenient medium, particularly as it ensures acknowledgment through the Department. No other receipt will be given, any other being unnecessary and likely to cause confusion.

Yet judge, if I have had my share
Of earthy griefs, and woes, to bear.
Ah ! Lilloo, little did we deem,
The pleasures of that fleeting dream
Would fade away, so soon ;
Aye ! fade, ere it were noon ;
And leave, behind, a track of years
Blasted ; tho' watered, by my tears ;
Fatal the hour, thou heards't my suit ;
More deadly, still, hath been the fruit ;
What I am now, is quickly seen ;
But none know what, I might have been.
Ah ! Lilloo couldst thou see me, now,
The daggled locks, upon my brow,
My sunken eye, and quivering frame,
Thou couldst not deem, I were the same ;
Thou couldst not guess this haggard shade,
To be the wreck,—which thou hast made !
I wrong her, Stranger ! for the guilt,
And deep the guilt, was mine alone ;
By me 'twas, that her blood was spilt,
By me, that deed of darkness done.

XVIII.

My soul is fluttering, in my breast,
As it would fly,—or be at rest ;
My reason wanders, thou mayst see,
And I shall, soon, have ceased to be.
No Lilloo ! if even now the cup
Of happiness were offered up,
Aye ! fairly, freely, proffered forth,
O'erflowing, to my burning lip,
As freely, would I dash, to earth,
The charmed draught, if it should be
Linked, with forgetfulness of thee ;
If only for the hour, which death
May spare me, yet, this fleeting breath.

XIX.

Our thousand gods, alas ! have given
No promise of an after heaven ;*
I ask it not ; my sole request
Is rest—for-ever welcome, rest ;
But, when I think of thee, my love !
I own, my thoughts, oft, point above.
I envy not, the Moor, his toys,
His Houries, and his promised joys ;
Tho' every tongue should whisper rest,
They could not lull my troubled breast,
And tuneless, were the sweetest song,
Unless, from thine own silver tongue.
To some, perhaps, these joys were fair,
I prize them not ;—nor seek to share ;
Without thee,—they were idle all,
A gilded show, that soon would pall.

XX.

But, if the Christian's hope be true
Of after life, Oh ! it were sweet,
To think, that we again might meet,
With pure, and spotless hearts, anew,
And love, without its guilt, renew ;
If I could deem that promise sure,
What penance would I not endure ;
And yet, they say, it needs it not,
If, with a contrite spirit, sought ;
Their tale seems strange, and stranger still,
One God should rule, with uncheck'd will ;
Yet, I have tried its truth to scan,
And still, methinks, there is but ONE ;
But true or false, 'tis now too late
To struggle, with a wayward fate ;
Yet ! happy they, who hold a creed,
Can cheer the heart, in day of need,
Oh ! it were much, to know that bliss,
If only, in an hour, like this ;
Tho' now, with scarce that space to live,
My hoarded thousands I would give ;
If, but to hope, that I, once more,
Might meet thee,—on their promised shore.

XXI.

Even now, as thro' a misty cloud,
I saw her, in her dripping shroud ;
And often, thus, her form appears,
As, when emerging from the deep,
Her eyelids closed, as if in sleep,
Yet drooping, as with unshed tears !

LAMENT.

YES ! she is dead, who lived for me,
Tho' sweet the smile, that lingers yet,
So like—her own, it well might be,
But yet, for hers,—how fixed, and set.

Yes ! death is here,—her raven hair
Is lifeless all, about her brow,
And that was eloquent, and fair,
As marble pale,—'tis colder now.

Her eyes are closed, as if in sleep,
Their fringes curtain all, below,
Their lids but droop,—as if to weep,
In pity, at some dream of woe.

Oh ! lift them not,—in mercy, spare
My breaking heart, the dreadful sight ;
The soul, the spirit, is not there,
That beamed, that sparkled, in their light.

But she is gone ; what do I here ?
The sun, that warmed my lonely breast,
Hath set,—nor left a ray to cheer ;
'Tis time,—that I should be at rest.

And then, away, her shade will glide,
Or pause, as now, and seem to chide,
And beckon me, with outstretched hand,
To follow, to some dreaming land.
Nay ! doubt me not ;—I come ! I come !
To seek thee, even beyond the tomb.

XXII.

Haste, Stranger ! to Bood'h-Gyah's pile,
And there, within the convent aisle,
My wealth is hid, an ample store,
Go, give it, to the poor ;—*
Howe'er men doubt of caste, and creed,
There's none will blame the pious deed,
That stills the hapless captive's moan,
Or soothes the dying wretch's groan,
Then give it to the poor !
'Tis strange ! this hour, or feared, or dared
Should ever find us, unprepared,
And I could wish, some farther space
Had yet be given me, to retrace
The darker portions of my fate ;
But that, thou seest, is now too late ;
And, if I am not, what I ought,
Be theirs the blame, whose malice sought

* The Hindoos believe, in the transmigration of the soul, and as this, according to their belief, will have to pass through an indefinite number of terrestrial forms, and transmutations, before it has arrived at such a degree of perfection and purity, as to be incorporated, or associated with the Godhead, their religion fails to inspire the mind, at the hour of death with any degree of comfort or confidence. To this, the text must be understood to allude.

* From this, it would appear, that the Sunnyassee never did belong to the monastery at Bood'h-Gyah, but that he was merely a noviciate, as it were. When a man becomes a Hindoo ascetic, all ties of consanguinity are broken, and cease to operate ; at first he is a Chelah or disciple himself, and as such inherits from his teacher or superior ; in the course of time, he comes to have his own chelahs or disciples, and whatever wealth he may acquire, and leave, is inherited by them.

To deem, the furrow, on my brow,
Was ploughed by guilt, and not by woe.
Their tale was false;—but that they knew
It was enough.— hey wished it true;
And they may, still, my name assail.
What heeds it me,—yes it were well,
Another time, to be more kind,
Another time, to be less blind,
Nor drive a brother to offend,
They scarce would seem to wish to mend.

XXIII.

This wreck of passion, grief, and care,
Is scarcely fit a thought to share;
Yet once, it was my wish, and hope
To sleep, upon the far hill-top,
That looks ne'r Chirkee's well-known plain, *
And o'er Bood'h-Gyah's rich domain;
But here!—that last delusion ends;—
Then give my ashes to the winds;
Then none will say, with jocund tread,
Here sleeps, he, or here rests the dead.
Unthinking fool! a few years must,
Lay him too, with th' oblivious dust.

He passed away, nor left a trace
Of kindred, lineage, or of race,
And we will hope, that rest may gain,
He sought, so long, on earth, in vain.

WEEKLYANA.

DR. Fitzedward Hall again writes regarding "An Indian Journalist:—

"It is to *Reis and Rayyet* that I am chiefly indebted, now-a-days, for my information regarding what is going on in Bengal. I always look forward to its arrival, and my interest in it, keen hitherto, will in future be more so, now that I know the share you have in its conspicuously able management.

That justice has been done, and through a medium wholly unprecedented, to the memory of the lamented Dr. Mookerjee, is, for India, a most auspicious sign of the times. A generation ago nothing like it could have been looked for. Talent, however great, if independence had been conjoined with it, would then have counted for nothing."

***

ANOTHER English notice of the book:—

"Mr. F. H. Skrine has rendered a friendly service to the memory of Dr. Sambhu Ch. Mookerjee by bringing out his 'life, letters, and correspondence' under the title of 'An Indian Journalist.' Dr. Mookerjee was of pure Brahman stock, being a lineal descendant, in the thirty-fourth generation, from the celebrated poet Sriharsha, author of the Sanskrit epic Nushadhacarita. In spite of a strangely chequered career which began with his school days and continued for many years while he was on the staff of the 'Hindoo Patriot' and other papers, and made a name as a reviewer, till he started, in 1882, 'Reis and Rayyet,' a weekly paper devoted to politics, literature and social questions, which has maintained to the end of his life—and we may add, is maintaining under the able editorship of his successor—a general reputation for literary finish, breadth of view, and impartiality. In the editorial chair of this paper he found full scope for the utilisation of his extensive acquaintance with English and Indian literature, his dry humour, his sober judgment. Though a staunch Hindu, he kept himself free from social prejudices, he was allied in close friendship with the late Nawab Abdool Luteef Bahadur, and on terms of intimacy with many English gentlemen of influence. What impresses the reader of the correspondence most favourably is the high appreciation in which Dr. Mookerjee appears to have been held by all with whom he was brought in contact. Books like this will go far in breaking down the social barriers still existing between the Hindus and the dominant race."—*Luzac's Oriental List*, Vol. vi, Nos. 10 and 11, Oct.-Nov., 1895.

***

THE National Hungarian Millenium Exhibition to be held at Budapest between May and October, 1896, is thus announced in the *Gazette of India*:

"THE NATIONAL HUNGARIAN MILLENIUM EXHIBITION.
Historical-Exhibition. Exhibition of Works of Art. Ethnographical Exhibition Exposition of Military Concerns. Land-Produce. Industry and Commerce. Good Railway Connections. Authorised Office for Providing Apartments."

***

GOLD has been found in German Africa. A German geologist has traced an auriferous quartz reef four miles in length, forty miles to the west of Tanga.

***

AFTER bitter experience, China has awakened to modern civilization. An imperial edict orders the construction of a double line of railway from Pekin to Tientsin, at an estimated cost of three million taels.

***

SIR Donald Stewart has been given a fresh term on the India Council. A special telegram in the *Englishman* reports that Sir Charles Elliott will likely be admitted to that Council in view of possible reforms in the Land Revenue Settlement.

***

THE Governor-General in Council has exempted all spirit imported into British India, which has been rendered effectually and permanently unfit for human consumption, from the whole of the Customs duty in excess of 5 per cent. *ad valorem* leviable thereon on importation into British India.

***

DELAY is not always dangerous. It may prove an advantage. The Sessions Judge of Ahmedabad, on the unanimous verdict of the jury, sentenced three persons, out of four, to capital punishment for dacoity attended with murder of one Hukha Varshang committed in December 1893 In August last, the Bombay High Court confirmed the sentence. The prisoners next petitioned the Local Government, which declined to interfere, and the execution was fixed for the 22nd of August. It was then urged that certain important evidence was not admitted at the trial. The day of execution was postponed. A long correspondence began ending with a reference by the Bombay Government to the Government of India. The Bombay Government has now decided that, owing to the delay in carrying out the sentence of death, it should be commuted to one of transportation for life.

***

THE Legal Practitioners' Bill had the earliest and earnest support of the Lieutenant-Governor of the Punjab. The Lahore Chief Court Bar also recorded a resolution suggesting its extension to all classes of legal practitioners. Echoing the cry from other parts of India, that Bar Association has just rescinded its former recommendation and has Resolved that, as past legislation had been a failure, and the proposals of the Bill offer no hope of succeeding in their object, the Act should be repealed altogether, and that it should be left to the different bodies of legal practitioners to manage their own affairs, as in England. It was, we believe, the Lahore advocates, who, a year before the Act was passed, had agreed among themselves not to employ or encourage touts, and found it advantageous in that their income was doubled. An accession of new blood disturbed the arrangement and law brokers began to flourish when the Act was passed to make them law breakers.

***

THE Registrar, Calcutta University, notifies that candidates intending to apply for the privileges of affiliation to the University of Cambridge are required to submit their certificates of having passed the F. A. or the B. A. Examination to him, so that the language or languages in which they have passed may be endorsed on such certificates.

***

THE date for admission to the Apprentice Department of the Civil Engineering College, Sibpur, is the 3rd of February, 1896.

* Chirkee is a very small village, situated half-way, between Sherghottee and Gyah; about a mile to the west of it, there is a rugged circular hill, that rises abruptly from the plain. It is covered with brushwood, and has altogether a very picturesque appearance. This hill is seen from a considerable distance, all around, and is probably the one alluded to; I am thus particular, in case the inhabitants of the sacred city should hereafter wish to raise a pillar or obelisk, on the site indicated, to the memory of the Sunyassee.

DEAFNESS. An essay describing a really genuine Cure for Deafness, Singing in Ears, &c., no matter how severe or long-standing, will be sent post free.—Artificial Ear-drums and similar appliances entirely superseded. Address THOMAS KEMPE, VICTORIA CHAMBERS, 19, SOUTHAMPTON BUILDING, HOLBORN, LONDON.

AT the instance of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce, the Lieutenant-Governor has appointed a Labour Enquiry Commission, with H. C. Williams, Esq, C. S., as President, the members being Surgeon-Lieutenant-Colonel D. W. D. Comins, Inspector-General of Jails, Lower Provinces, W. B. Gladstone, Esq, nominated by the Bengal Chamber of Commerce, H. C. Begg, Esq., nominated by the Indian Tea Association, C. W. Gray, Esq., nominated by the Indian Mining Association, and Kumar Dakineswar Malia.

NOTES & LEADERETTES,

OUR OWN NEWS,

&

THE WEEK'S TELEGRAMS IN BRIEF, WITH OCCASIONAL COMMENTS.

ALL the Ambassadors, also the Turks, it is said, generally approve of Sir Philip Currie's action in receiving Said Pasha at the British Embassy. The Sultan sent different Ministers and his Private Secretary to try and induce Said Pasha to quit the British Embassy, promising immunity from any harm. He, however, stoutly and repeatedly refused to comply, and Sir Philip Currie likewise declined to persuade him. Her Majesty's despatch vessels Cockatrice and Imogene, lying in the Bosphorus, were surrounded by Turkish Police boats all Thursday night, fearing that Said Pasha would attempt to take refuge on board. The boats were withdrawn at daylight, Sir Philip Currie has protested against the proceeding. M. Nelidoff, the Russian Ambassador, had an audience of the Sultan on Dec. 8, and presented a letter from the Czar. A change in the Turkish Ministry is expected, and Said Pasha, the ex-Foreign Minister, who is known as a Kurd, will, it is stated, be Grand Vizier. Next day, Said Pasha returned home. Before leaving the English Embassy, he wrote to Sir Philip Currie, stating that, owing to his being so repeatedly urged by the Sultan, he was obliged to abandon his intention of going abroad to recruit his health, and return home to prove his appreciation of the Sultan's assurances that he continued in his Majesty's favour. He states, however, that his health will not permit of his resuming office. After bitter, reluctant delays an Imperial irade has been issued by the Sultan, authorising the extra guardships of the Powers. It appears that the Russian Ambassador appealed to the Sultan to avert an ultimatum from the Powers. His Majesty yielded. The British and Italian extra guardships passed the Dardanelles on Dec. 12, for Constantinople.

THE chiefs of the insurgent bands at Zeitun are declared to be Russian Armenians. The United States Government has demanded the punishment of the officer who failed to protect the American missionaries in the outbreak at Marash, and also of the Turkish soldiers who were guilty of pillaging the mission station.

REPORTS received from many sources in Armenia state that utter desolation exists there, and that thousands are homeless and perishing of cold and starvation.

LORD Salisbury's despatch regarding the Venezuela dispute has been received at Washington. In it he maintains the Schomburgh boundary as the minimum of the territory of British Guiana. The ultimatum from the British Government to Venezuela has been finally delivered through the German Minister.

THE select Battalion, to which Prince Henry of Battenberg has been attached, left the Albert Docks on the 7th for Ashanti. The Duke of Connaught, commanding at Aldershot, reviewed the Battalion at Aldershot before they started.

DEAFNESS COMPLETELY CURED! Any person suffering from Deafness, Noises in the Head, &c., may learn of a new, simple treatment, which is proving very successful in completely curing cases of all kinds. Full particulars, including many unsolicited testimonials and newspaper press notices, will be sent post free on application. The system is, without doubt, the most successful ever brought before the public. Address, Aural Specialist, Albany Buildings, 39, Victoria Street, Westminister, London, S. W.

THE death is announced of Mr. George Augustus Sala, the famous journalist and one of the masters of the English language. He has not survived long his late sad experiences.

THE *Times*, in an article on the cotton duties, concludes that India has a strong case which has brought conviction to the best men of both parties, and that it will be very difficult for Lancashire to shake that conviction. Lord George Hamilton received the Manchester deputation on Wednesday. In reply, he said that the present amtagonism of interests was a danger to the unity of the Empire. Indian finance, he said, had slightly improved during the year, and he sincerely hoped that it would continue to improve, and thus permit of the remission of the cotton duties. He assured the deputation that their grievance would be the first for removal if the finances improved, and said that it was not advisable to give a final answer until he was prepared to act, and he was bound to allow Bombay its full say, and give fair play to both sides. He promised to submit the views of the deputation to the Indian Government, and would ask them to accelerate their reply.

MAJOR Toselli, with 1,200 Native troops and 20 Italian officers, was surprised and surrounded by Menelek's army, numbering 20,000 at Ambagali. General Arimondi, while advancing to relieve Major Toselli, was forced to retreat to Makalle, after a battle in which Menelek lost heavily. Three of Major Toselli's officers and 300 men joined General Arimondi. Seventeen Italian officers and forty non-commissioned officers besides a Mountain Battery with Major Toselli are supposed to have been massacred. The Italian Government has ordered the despatch of reinforcements numbering four thousand men from Naples. It has every confidence in General Barateri, and the Italian positions, notably at Makalle, are strongly fortified and victualled in case of a siege. The fighting was desperate and lasted for six hours, the Italians being eventually crushed by vastly superior numbers. Two or three thousand Shoans were killed. The latest report is that Major Toselli was killed at the beginning of the battle, and that the Shoans murdered many wounded Italians. The Italian forces have evacuated Adowa and are centering upon Adigrat, where preparations are being made to resist the Shoans, who number about thirty five thousand. The defence made by Major Toselli was most heroic. When all was lost, though the numbers against him were overwhelming, he valiantly led the final charge, thus enabling the remnants of his force to escape and join General Arimondi's force, which merely checked the advance of the Shoans without fighting. Upwards of two thousand Native troops fell at Ambagali. Three Italian Battalions and a quantity of materiel leave for Massowah on the 17th instant and two Battalions on the 27th instant. The Italian Budget Committee have approved an extra grant of four million lire for military expenses in Abyssinia.

DURING a debate in the French Chamber of Deputies, M Paul Guieysse, Colonial Minister, said that the policy of France had emerged from the period of the offensive and had entered a peaceful phase. The Government, he added, would not seek to extend the dominions of the Republic. Does he mean what he says?

PRINCE Hohenlohe, speaking in the German Reichstag, said that Government was resolved to enforce the laws against the Socialists with the strongest measures.

THE Blackburn operatives have resolved to appeal to the Lancashire members of Parliament to demand the instant repeal of the Cotton Duties, owing to the fact that thousands of looms are idle.

THE Queen has taken the hotel at Cimiez, near Nice, which she occupied last season.

ADVICES from Madagascar state that a mob of six thousand has destroyed the British Mission at Remairando. The Rev. Macmahon, the Missionary, and his family effected their escape. The French troops have started to quell the disturbance, and all Europeans in the country have been ordered to Antananarivo.

THE Viceroy arrived at Calcutta yesterday, landing at Prinsep's Ghat. Lord Elgin will hold his Levée on the 16th. Next day, he will unveil the statue of Sir Stewart Bayley.

KABIRAJ Ganga Prasad Sen is dead. Born in 1823, in a village near Vikrampore, District Dacca, he breathed his last on Monday, December 9 at Calcutta, on the banks of the sacred Bhagirathi. At an early age, after his investiture with the sacred thread, (for a Vaidya carries a sacred thread like a Brahmin), he studied Sanskrit Grammar and literature, at Sonarang in Vikrampore, sitting at the feet of the learned Pandit Kamal Siromani. The latter had a large number of disciples to teach and feed. His income was extremely limited, and each disciple had to be content with only half and sometimes even quarter rations. Ganga Prasad studied the Ayurveda under the tuition of his father, the celebrated Nilambar Sen who in his day was the foremost of Kabirajes at Calcutta. The Kabiraji practice in former times was hampered by many serious obstacles, chief amongst which was the absence of ready made medicines, especially the costlier ones, for immediate use. The custom was to prepare the required medicine after the physician had been called in. The preparation often took many days, so that the patient sometimes succumbed to the disease before the physician could render him any help. Ganga Prasad's father, Nilambar, resolved to keep in hand a good stock of Ayurvedic medicines. He had to incur a large pecuniary outlay, but his forethought was soon crowned with the best results to both himself and his patients. His practice rose by leaps and bounds, till he topped all the Kabirajes of Calcutta. Large as his earnings were, he spent freely in charity, so that his popularity knew no bounds. Ganga Prasad commenced practice when he was 22 years of age. At first he was only his father's assistant. The venerable Nilambar, however, soon died, leaving no money to his son. The latter had to push his way through the world. The European system of cure was then highly popular. Kabiraji had lost ground before its formidable rival. Ganga Prasad, however, knew the value of his art and had great self-reliance. Silently but surely his practice and popularity extended. Within a very few years he succeeded in coming to the front rank of Ayurvedic practitioners. Following the example set by his father, he invested his savings in manufacturing such medicines and medicinal oils as are frequently in requisition. His medicinal oils proved an inexhaustible mine of wealth. His success also in the cure of disease was remarkable.

Ganga Prasad was a rigid Hindu. He resembled his father in charity. He had a large number of pupils to keep. His benefactions to learned Brahmins on all ceremonial occasions were very large. He carefully excluded those that are stained by accepting the gifts of excasted families of wealth. During the prosecution of the *Bangabashi*, he readily came forward as security for the accused in a heavy sum, after almost every one among the Garbhadhanist Rajahs and Rajalings, so loud in their denunciation of the Consent Bill, had dexterously refused the prayer of the poor fellows about to be dragged to *Hajat*. The man discovered his mettle by that one step. He had the courage of his convictions. He has left a large fortune to his heirs, and many legacies to kinsmen. Altogether, his death is a loss, almost irreparable, to the cause of the Ayurvedic method of cure.

THE death of M. Barthelemy St. Hilaire is a distinct loss to the learned world. Both as a classical scholar and Orientalist he was in the front rank and enjoyed a world wide reputation. His literary fame eclipsed that of his political activity of early years. He edited the *Journal des Savants* for many years with distinguished ability. His first great work on Sankhya philosophy established his fame as an Orientalist on a solid foundation. It excited the admiration of the great German Pandits. His greatest work—a complete translation into French of Aristotle's voluminous remains—was concluded by his "Problemes d'Aristote" in two volumes. It is a marvel of accurate learning and patience. Begun in 1832, the translation was finished in 1891. It would seem that he had been spared by his Maker for completing his great task, for he lived to a good old age. His concluding volumes on Aristotle are, perhaps, a master-piece. The authenticity of the Problems had been doubted by some scholars. M. St. Hilaire, in a grand dissertation, critically examined the evidence bearing on the subject, and showed that the doubt had no ground to stand upon. No one had studied the works of the Stagirite with greater care than he. His opinion, therefore, on the question of the genuineness of the Problems is entitled to the highest respect. The word problems, as used by Aristotle, means questions and answers put forward for discussion and solution. They are in the form of questions and answers. The 38 sections of the collection include altogether 859 questions relating to all sorts of subjects, many of them extremely minute and curious. The titles of some of the sections will give a general idea of the character of the matters dealt with. Medical questions, relating generally to diseases; on sweat, wine and drinking, fatigue, sympathy, shivering, the voice; good and bad smells; Temperature; Mathematics, Astronomy; Animate and Inanimate things; Philosophy; musical Harmony; Sea-water; mineral waters; air; the wind; Fear and Courage; Temperance; Justice; Intelligence; the Eyes; the Ears; the Nose; the Mouth; Touch; the Face; Colours;—these form the topics of this great work. The speculations, in some instances, coincide wonderfully with the discoveries of modern science. Here is a book which, if translated into Bengali, is sure to be devoured by Bengali readers in consequence of many points of resemblance with the surmises of the Rishis of ancient India.

M. St. Hilaire took an active interest in the English translation of the Mahabharata published by Pratapa Chandra Roy. It was through his influence and recommendation that the French Government went out of its way for subsidizing that work, disregarding its sectarial character and, therefore, its incompleteness at the time of the grant, and also its place of publication, *viz*, a foreign country. Although a labourer in the field of ancient Indian literature, M. St. Hilaire was not indifferent to the currents of modern thought in this country. He had a poor opinion of the work of the Asiatic Society of Bengal. He did not live to review the grand poem in Sanskrit of Pandit Ram Nath Tarkaratna in the *Journal des Savants*, but in a private letter to the English translator of the Mahabharata he expressed his admiration for the genius the of Pandit and his marvellous command of the dead tongue of the Rishis.

THE following extract from *Harper's Monthly Magazine* will be read with interest in this country as affording a fair idea of the general ignorance of India under which a considerable portion of the British public still labours.

"With the spread of education among subordinate castes, the supremacy of the Brahmin, and the exclusive monopoly in matters intellectual which he formerly enjoyed, are rapidly waning. The class which seems to have made the most capital out of the new order of things is the somewhat loosely defined, but widely distributed, portion of the Hindu population, known as Bengalis or Babus. When they are conservative enough to cling to the primitive costume of their forefathers, which was evidently not designed to foster the vice of vanity among its wearers, there is little difficulty in distinguishing them from other subjects of the Queen-Empress. These orthodox Babus wear nothing on their heads to cover their close-cropped stocks of black hair, although they usually carry a white cotton umbrella; their principal garment is a long piece of white drapery, called a *dhoti*, leaving their arms and legs bare, and worn something after the fashion of a Roman toga. Other characteristic features of their costume are the low patent-leather shoes, and white socks which have a tendency to hang down, leaving visible large surfaces of fat brown shanks, as these people are inclined to be of fat and portly habit. Gold-rimmed spectacles often add a touch of modern 'actuality' to this somewhat archaic costume.

There is a prevalent belief among the more progressive members of this class, that a European costume, or what is more common, a sort of compromise between the dress of the undisguised Babu and the Englishman, is the first step in the direction of worldly success. As a recent critic remarks, 'In as small a matter as getting off a tram-car, I have repeatedly observed that Babus in coats and trousers risk their lives in a flying leap, while others in *dhoti* and bare feet insist on the car stopping before they trust their precious persons to the ground.' Whatever may be his dress, he runs no risk of being mistaken for a member of any of the military castes, and in case of war it would probably never occur to the ruling powers to raise an army from among this industrious and prolific section of the community. But in a country where everything has been specialised from the very beginning, no one seems to respect this class the less on account of its pacific disposition. And yet some of their severest critics may be found among their own order. One of their Pandits, with a historic name, lately remarked, 'You can no more make a gentleman out of a Bengali than carve a fine image out of rotten wood.' And as a general thing the Bengali will rely more on the word of an Englishman than on that of his fellow-countrymen. But, on the other hand, it cannot be denied that these people represent much of the brain and intelligence of native India. They edit papers and are born agitators, criticising the policy of the Government, and saying whatever it pleases them to think upon political matters in their societies as well as in their journals, for they are usually endowed with the gift of volubility and rapid utterance and freely express their minds in 'high falutins' and more or less Shakespearian English."

There is no egregious mistake in the statement that the supremacy of the Brahman and his monopoly in matters intellectual are rapidly waning, for others than Brahmans are availing themselves of the educational machinery provided by the British Government. The supremacy

of the Brahman, however, as Brahman,—that is, irrespective of his intellectual acquisitions and piety,—is not yet a thing of the past. The Brahman, if only he happens to be a decent individual, still receives the bow of worship from every Kshatriya or Vaisya or Sudra that has not broken with his caste or religion. The Brahman's feet are still touched with reverence on every ceremonial occasion. Those among the Brahmans that are engaged in the pursuit of the ancient learning of their country, still receive gifts of honour, as their sires and grandsires before them did, on occasions of religious rites. They are still the spiritual guides and preceptors of the people. Some more centuries will have to elapse before the Brahman ceases to be honoured in India by the individuals of the other orders among Hindus. From the manner, again, in which the writer speaks of "the somewhat loosely defined but widely distributed portion of the Hindu population known as Bengalis or Babus" that are making "the most capital out of the new order of things," it is plain that he will be filled with surprise when he learns that the Bengalis or Babus include a large number of Brahmans; that Bengal is only a geographical division of India, having proper boundaries; that the word Bengali implies a racial and not a caste distinction. The dilettantes and hack writers in the press who take upon themselves to instruct the British public in matters Indian, have yet to learn the very alphabet of Indian ethnology, caste, and even geography. With these writers the Bengali is always a butt of ridicule, and whole columns of inaccuracies are poured on his devoted head to excite merriment at his expense. Living as the Bengali does in a hot climate, he cannot cover himself with cloth as thick as is worn by the people of colder climes. His ideas of decency, again, are different from those of other people. His durbar dress, however, is perfectly unobjectionable. That he is not enrolled in the army can scarcely be his fault, considering how the Government has repeatedly disallowed his prayer for entering the army as a career. Every Bengali cannot fight, even as every Englishman cannot shoulder the musket or manage the steed. Macaulay himself could not ride or manage a pony. It is, however, not true that there are no Bengalis who can fight. There are entire castes in Bengal which can furnish excellent materials for regiments capable of standing side by side with the bravest troops of the world. Can the writer name the Pundit to whom he refers as his authority for his libel on the Bengali character? He is probably none else than the renowned Ramghose Mookerjee whom this instructor of the British public had met with in a Railway train if he had ever been to India or with whom some friend of his has possibly exchanged a letter or two. It is very much to be deplored that such malicious caricatures are regarded by the conductors of English newspapers and periodicals worthy of their columns or pages. The mischief already caused by ignorance and malice is very great. The Indian press should never lose the opportunity of setting the British public right by exposing all mischievous detractors.

REIS & RAYYET.

Saturday, December 14, 1895.

LORD ELGIN ON ADDRESSES.

In reply to an address of welcome presented to him at Benares, Sir A. P. MacDonnell is credited with having said,—"My reason in taking a tour through the districts is not personal gratification, but the desire to bring myself into touch with the officers, public bodies, and private individuals who make up the State organisation." Although these words embody an obvious truth, yet the necessity for their utterance will be admitted by those who have carefully read Lord Elgin's Poona speech. If Lord Elgin's view be correct of what the contents should be of addresses of welcome presented to high officers of State, the utility of official tours upon which so much stress is laid in this country would seem to disappear. The fruits are already being reaped of the Poona deliverance. The Mahajan Sabha of Madras desired to present an address of welcome to the Viceroy. The draft was submitted to the local Government which took objection to the paragraphs referring to the increase of military expenditure at a time of financial embarrassment caused by the ever-increasing loss by exchange, the retention of Chitral, the adoption of a severe policy towards the agricultural classes by reviving settlement operations with, as it would seem, the pre-determined object of increasing the revenue from land, and the interested agitation in England for the repeal of the cotton duties. The address urged the desirability of economy, so that the savings effected might be devoted to the relief of the tax-payer "or in feeding the departments directly beneficial to the public, such as Public Works, Education, Sanitation, etc., or in carrying out those urgent administrative reforms for which the public have been some years clamouring, such as the separation of judicial and executive functions." The Madras Government decided that unless these references were omitted, the address could not be allowed to be presented. The Mahajan Sabha held a meeting and resolved that, under the circumstances, no address should be presented, for the suppression of the paragraphs would materially detract from the value of the document. From his point of view Lord Elgin might be pleased to direct that addresses of welcome should not be converted into instruments for challenging the general policy of Government, but the question is of what value would such occasions be if the privilege be taken away from the people of laying their grievances at the feet of authority? Of what value would their tours be if officials were to close their ears against all complaints and hear nothing but the praises of the administration? Asiatic monarchs and even Subordinate Chiefs have their paid birds and encomiasts for loudly proclaiming their virtues not only on all ceremonial occasions but also within the inner apartments of their palaces and mansions for awaking them from their slumbers. However agreeable the voice of praise, the listeners never expect other throats to utter it. They never hope for eulogies save from those whose vocation it is to eulogise. The difference, however, is very great between Asiatic despotism or weakness and European statesmanship based on superior culture. Despising the encomiums prompted by interest or pusillanimity, statesmen should read their history in a nation's eyes. A large quantity of eye-wash is used by subordinate officials for tricking superiors into an impression of general prosperity when the fact is otherwise. The opportunities in India are very rare, for those engaged in the task of ruling, of learning anything directly from the lips of the ruled. From their very nature, the addresses of public bodies are drafted with great reserve. Their tone is always respectful. Factiousness is rigidly avoided. To discourage even such expressions of opinion implies an impatience of criticism that is incompatible with liberal statesmanship. If the policy criticised really admits of justification, officials should welcome

The Indian Association for the Cultivation of Science.
210, Bow-Bazar Street, Calcutta.
(Session 1895-96.)

Lecture by Dr. Mahendra Lal Sircar, on Sunday, the 15th Inst., at 5 P.M. *Subject:* Galvanometers. Action of currents upon each other.

Lecture by Dr. D. N. Chatterjee, B.A., M.B., C.M., on Tuesday, the 17th Inst., at 6 to 8 P.M. *Subjects:* Histology—Liver; Physiology—Alimentation.

Lecture by Babu Rajendra Nath Chatterjee, M.A., on Wednesday, the 18th Inst., at 6 P.M. *Subject:* Rectilineal Propagation and Velocity of Light.

Lecture by Dr. Mahendra Lal Sircar, Thursday, the 19th Inst. at 5 P.M. *Subject:* Action of Currents upon each other. Electro-dynamics.

MAHENDRA LAL SIRCAR, M.D.,
December 14, 1895. *Honorary Secretary.*

such criticism for the opportunity offered them for explanation. It is only when the task becomes difficult of hiding the struggling pangs of conscious truth that such expressions of opinion become annoying. Perhaps, Lord Elgin is too sincere a statesman to be capable of quenching the blushes of ingenuous shame while justifying the retention of Chitral and pleading the increase of military expenditure and of loss by exchange as difficulties in the way of relief to the agricultural classes, of the extension of Public Works, and the separation of judicial and executive functions. He should remember that stopping the expression does not kill the grievance outright; that statesmanship consists in meeting criticism openly and replying to it with vigour.

All this may be admitted, and yet the view, it may be argued, propounded by the Viceroy may be strictly correct In refusing addresses distasteful to him for their contents, the Viceroy does not interfere with the right of the subject to petition the crown or its representatives. Every private individual has the right to refuse receiving and answering unpleasant communications addressed to him. The situation would be truly deplorable of the Viceroy if this right were denied to him. Unfortunately, the Viceroy's progress through the empire is invested with a political character which can by no means be eliminated from it. The people have always been allowed to approach him on such occasions not only with expressions of loyal welcome as befit every good subject of the Queen, but with also a tale of their wants and respectful suggestions for showing how those wants may be obviated or met. Herein lies the difficulty of the situation. Lord Elgin's predecessors have borne the infliction, each with as much grace as he could command. Addresses have before now been even refused. The reasons, however, had never been formally enunciated. The desire, publicly expressed, of stopping the free expression of opinion in addresses is a distinct departure from established practice. Rules have never been promulgated defining the principles that should regulate the frame of such public utterances. On the other hand, it has been always understood that in welcoming or bidding farewell to Viceroys and provincial Governors, public bodies have all along been allowed to make references to political questions of the hour and freely criticise them from their stand-point of view. Instances are not wanting of Viceroys betraying an impatience of criticism by even undignified exhibition of temper. But Lord Elgin's is undoubtedly the first attempt to lay down a rule as to what the limits should be of topics introduced in public addresses. In preventing excursions into the wide field of administrative policy, it seems that Lord Elgin's wish is that nothing should occur to disturb the pleasure or harmony of Viceregal progresses through the empire; that the head of the administration should everywhere be greeted with only expressions of loyalty and joy and contentment with the existing order of things; that only faces beaming with inward satisfaction, with not a line of cark and care, should be presented on such occasions. The rides and progresses of Queen Elizabeth, it is said, were regulated upon such a principle, for the police had especial instructions to prevent all sorts of ugly, deformed, and ill-dressed people from lining the streets in hope of obtaining a sight of the Sovereign. None but well clad and handsome specimens of the Queen's gaze. The partiality of Queen Bess, however, for handsome countenances, was productive of no mischievous consequences to her people. Unfortunately, the new kind of addresses with which Lord Elgin wishes to be greeted, is not altogether innocent. The check proposed on the free utterance of thoughts is very much to be deplored. That check is one of direct consequences of our forward military policy as also of the ministerial coqueting for Lancashire votes.

Letter to the Editor.

A MUNICIPAL GRIEVANCE.

(A telegraphic correction)

REGRET the publication in your esteemed paper of 7th December of a letter headed "a Municipal Grievance." The site of the old slaughter house, situate at the border of the butchers' quarter, was selected by a special Sub-Committee and approved by Dr. Zurab, Chairman of the Municipality, and by the then Sanitary Commissioner. The cries of the animals, heard from the Uriya Babu's garden house situate at a little distance, made him feel kind and ask the former Board to remove it. They declined but resolved at a meeting that if a similar slaughter-house, built on a piece of land of equal dimensions as the existing one, on a site equally convenient to the butchers could be guaranteed, they would have no objection to the removal. Nobody came forward. An appeal was made to the Divisional Commissioner through the Magistrate which was rejected. Dr. Gregg, Sanitary Commissioner, inspected the slaughter-house but never suggested its removal. The Babu subsequently having agreed to bear the cost of a new land and slaughter house, the Commissioners (the old body) agreed, according to their former promise, to remove it, and they also acquired land for the purpose. No Government or public thanks necessary for personal convenience. Sorry to find people that dare mislead editors like yourself.

PUBLIC.

ST. ANDREW'S DINNER.

SIR CHARLES ELLIOTT'S REPLY TO THE TOAST "THE GUESTS."

I have been entrusted with the honour of returning thanks on behalf of the guests for the welcome given them to-night by the Scotchmen of Calcutta, and I rise with great pleasure to perform that duty. It is no mere formality to say that we who have enjoyed your hospitality have been greatly impressed by two things—the generous abundance with which the tables have been laden for the refreshment of the inner man, and the liberal provision of intellectual recreation which has been made in the interesting speeches to which we have listened. Those who are old *habitues* of the place must be gratified by observing not only the growth of the number who attend this festival, but also the increased warmth of the spirit of friendliness which it evokes, (hear, hear) and we congratulate you on the existence of the strong national feeling which binds you together, and also on the good reasons which justify your pride in the name of Scotland. In these cosmopolitan days when philosophers debate whether patriotism is more akin to a vice or to a virtue, and the Custom House prices it as an article rapidly rising in value for my friends tell me that a sprig of heather which last year paid one anna as duty has this year been assessed at three—(laughter), we who are not philosophers do well to hail every occasion that strengthens the ties which bind us to our dear mother land, (cheers) and which forces us in this country to appreciate the bonds of blood and race and good fellowship. (Renewed applause) Your St. Andrew's Dinner is eminently such an occasion as this, and we trust that for years to come generations of guests like ourselves may enjoy the hospitality of generations of Scotchmen like yourselves, and admire the warmth of national enthusiasm and the spirit of good-will which meetings of this kind tend to engender. (Cheers.)

Thus far I have spoken on behalf of the guests whom I represent; but I have also to acknowledge on my own behalf the very flattering remarks made by Mr. Henderson regarding Lady Elliott and myself, and the special feeling which has induced you to place me in this position to night. I should like, therefore, at this point to ask my fellow guests to seat themselves, as the remainder of my observations will be of a general character, and I know there is nothing more tiring than to listen, standing, to a lengthy speech. Mr. Henderson has remarked feelingly on my misfortune in not being a Scotchman, though I bear a border name, and I join with him in confessing that though near the rose, still I am not the rose, but I have done what I can to remedy this deficiency by bringing

with me to-night an A.-D.-C. who is privileged to wear the Highland Light Infantry uniform, and I can congratulate you on the fact that my successor will be free from the defect which attaches to myself as he is as sound a Scotchman as any in the room. (Applause). Mr. Henderson has also given a summary of the work carried out by the Bengal Government, and I understand that you desire that this entertainment should be your farewell to the retiring Lieutenant-Governor, and that you invite me, in replying, to go outside of the ordinary subjects, and to give to you, and through you to the public, some account of my stewardship during the last five years. (Cheers.) It is, I believe, recognised by you all that a Lieutenant-Governor cannot address you with anything like the authority of a Viceroy, and cannot enter on an exposition of principles of Imperial policy such as you have been so fortunate as to listen to in former years; but it is still thought that the internal and domestic working of the Bengal Government may supply topics which possess interest and which deserve commemoration at a time when the reins of Government are changing hands.

In accepting this invitation I feel that you will not expect me to speak of the intricacies of civil government as it affects the great mass of the Native population, but that I should confine myself to those sides on which it touches, or is touched by the interests and welfare of the great body of the European community---those in Calcutta in the first place, and in the second place those who live in the mufassal, but are represented here. Even when limited in this way the subject is a very large one, and I feel sure that you will forgive me if on such a night as this I confine myself to the principal points of contact and to the most important measures regarding which the Government and the European body have mutually influenced each other. And the first point I am bound to dwell on is the great, and I am glad to be able to say the increasing trade of the place (Applause.) No Lieutenant-Governor would be worthy of his office if he did not see in that trade an object which in the interests of all classes of the community, whether resident in the capital or in the outlying parts of the province, he is bound to do all in his power to encourage and develop. I am indebted to Mr. Skrine for figures which show that while the imports of Calcutta during the last five years have stood unchanged at about 25 crores, the exports have risen from 35 to 45 crores. This is a large increase, and the subject is one on which I might easily dilate at a length disproportioned to what I have to say on other points, and I only make one or two remarks here. The first is, that our figures do not bear out the complaints made in England about the effect on the Manchester trade produced by the imposition of the cotton duties. (Hear, hear.) Cotton imports have stood at 14, 13, 12, 16, and 15 crores during the five-year period, and in the current year they are likely to exceed the maximum on record. Another point is that it is the imports of luxuries, such as sugar, tobacco, and spirits, which show a tendency to increase, and that local production is to some extent supplementing the import of necessaries. As to exports, their growth is mainly due to the great expansion of jute cultivation and manufacture, and the development of internal trade is chiefly the result of the attention paid to the improvement of communications and the removal of obstructions.

As regards this matter the two chief points at which the Bengal Government has in my time come in contact with the trade of the place are the port and the railway system. With regard to the port, the most important event has been the opening of the Kidderpore Docks and the burden laid upon the trade of Calcutta by the charge for interest on the expenditure. This is a matter on which I have been in constant and anxious communication with the Port Commissioners, and I went so far as to let it be known that if the voice of the trading community called for such action, the Government would be prepared to use the power which the law gives it of compelling ships to enter the Docks instead of lying in the river or at the Jetties; but your representatives generally agreed that such a step was inadvisable, and it was not taken. By degrees, however, the facilities afforded by the Docks have become more and more appreciated, and I learn that during the last twelve months the receipts have equalled the actual working expenses. A project is now before the Port Commissioners, under which all export cargo will be taken in at the Docks, and which if approved, will result in a near approach to equilibrium; and the Supreme Government has received a favourable proposal for postponing the sinking fund, and has hinted that there is some hope of a reduction of the interest. (Applause.) I think we may fairly attribute this friendly attitude of the Government of India to the fact that one of its members, though he is now the watchful guardian of Finance, was formerly a Bengal officer, who cannot hold himself aloof from sympathy with the difficulties of Calcutta, (cheers) and that another is the distinguished officer who is about to succeed me, and who will, no doubt, feel the same desire to abolish the special tax on trade that I have felt. (Renewed cheers.)

Turning now to the extension of the railway system, I fear that I tread on somewhat delicate ground, inasmuch as I have in one important discussion held a different view from that taken by the majority of the Calcutta mercantile community and by the Chamber of Commerce. But I feel sure that I am paying you no idle compliment when I express my belief that you would rather that I gave utterance to my genuine sentiments, (cheers) although they differ from yours, than that I should gloss them over, even out of deference to such an occasion as this. (Hear, hear.) I refer to the extension of the East Indian Railway system and to the desire which has been expressed that Calcutta should not be at the mercy of a single line in respect of its traffic with North-West India, but that a new railway capable of competing with the East India Railway should be constructed. My view on the other hand, has been that a single railway system is sufficient to carry all the traffic which now presents itself or is likely to present itself for the next twenty years, and that it is more advantageous to the trade of Calcutta that capitals should be expended in developing the feeder communications and enlarging the rolling stock and the number of trucks on that system, than in constructing a rival with a greater mileage and inferior gradients. Mr. Henderson has referred to my past connection with the Public Works Department as giving me some right to form an opinion on the subject, and I confess that my experience in India and my study of the working of the principle of unlimited competition in America have not been favourable to the proposed scheme. America has taught us that competition generally ends in combination, and my belief is that if a rival line were constructed, we should soon see the two systems enter into an agreement to pull their earnings, and then the trade of Calcutta would have to pay frieghts sufficient to cover the working expenses and dividends of two railways, though it could all be carried by one. This, however, has been the only instance in which the views of the Bengal Government have been at variance with those of the Chamber of Commerce. On all other points we have been at one, and our united efforts have succeeded in carrying the connection of Calcutta with the East Coast and the Bengal Nagpore Railways---a measure which ought to do a great deal to redress the somewhat undue favour shown to the Bombay trade in former years. The Government has also supported the requirements of the Chamber of Commerce regarding the water communication with Eastern Bengal, and has earnestly pressed on the construction of feeder roads, feeder lines, and tramways. We have lately recommended to the Government of India a list of railway projects which cover a length of about 1,100 miles of broad gauge and 750 miles of narrow gauge line within this province, and projects extending to about 600 miles have been formally or practically sanctioned. We have repeatedly expressed our conviction that with such a teeming population as that of Bengal, passenger traffic alone will secure a moderate dividend for any project which is judiciously selected and economically carried out, and we have heartily supported the efforts of independent capitalists to construct small local railways and tramways round about Calcutta.

The principle of combination, rather than competition, which I have referred to in dealing with railway projects, is even more clearly applicable to the question of recruiting labour, whether for tea-gardens, for the colonies, or for coal mines, and this principle has been strongly advocated by this Government in giving its adhesion to the request of the Chamber of Commerce for the appointment of the Commission to enquire into the labour question. The injury done to the great tea industry of Assam by the evils which attach to the present system of recruiting has been a cause for great anxiety ever since I learnt, as Chief Commissioner of that Province, to appreciate their gravity. (Hear, hear, and applause.) Efforts have been made to repress those evils by magisterial activity and by rules containing as much restriction as the law allows; and now the Government has indicated what we believe to be the only radical cure for the misdeeds which have made service on the Assam tea garden so undeservedly unpopular in Bengal. I can only express a hope that the clashing of opposing interests will not be found to be so unmanageable as to make it impossible to establish a voluntary organisation for the recruitment and supply of labour in which all employers shall combine and by which all demands shall be supplied.

The Census of Bengal taken in 1891 revealed the fact that the population had increased in ten years by five millions, or at the rate of half a million per annum; and we have reason to believe that that rate of increase still continues, or is but very slightly retarded, and instead of using Tennyson's lines "Every minute dies a man, every minute one is born," we find that in Bengal every minute seven persons die and eight are born. Barring the exchange difficulty, this growth of the population is the most serious danger which the Indian statesman has to face, (hear, hear) and putting aside the self-acting restrictions of thrift and prudence, and the hope that agricultural science may increase the productive powers of the soil, the remedy which Government is best able to apply is to encourage diversity of occupations and help to take the people off the land. For this reason the Government of Bengal is deeply interested in all schemes for fostering the development

of commercial industries which take their rise from the accumulation of capital in Calcutta, in assisting to attract labour to the tea gardens, the coal mines, the colonies, the factories, and in resisting every malign influence which imposes unnecessary restrictions and creates difficulties under a guise of philanthropy. We had an instance of this last year when Mr. Playfair protested in the Supreme Council against an attempt to impose conditions of ship-builders which would tend to check the employment of Indian lascars at sea, and I felt it a privilege to be able to add my voice in support of his protest. (Applause.) A more serious attempt was made to throttle the new openings for the employment of Native labour in factories and in coal mines by imposing restrictions unsuitable to the climate and not required by the habits of the people. (Loud cheers.) In resisting these attempts the Chamber of Commerce has been warmly backed up by the Bengal Government, and material help has been received towards this end from the two experts employed by Government--- Mr. Walsh, the Inspector of Factories, and Mr. Grundy, the Inspector of Mines, whose clear and judicious reports cannot but carry great weight with the authorities in England. Another mode in which this Government has co-operated to the same end is by encouraging the purchase of stores manufactured in this country in preference to buying and importing them from England (hear) and the result of this have been shown chiefly in the case of stationery, almost the whole of which ought to be made in India, and in the case of iron and steel required for Public Works, which, if sound materials capable of standing the prescribed tests are imported, can certainly be worked up as effectually here as at home. I trust, too, that the time is not far distant when steel rails and rought iron will be produced in India. (Applause.)

What, then, is the effect which these new openings produce on the steady increase of the population ? I do not wish to burden my speech with statistics, but I will indicate in a few words the conclusion to which our inquiries point.

The tea gardens of Assam absorb about 50,000 emigrants a year, and during the last five years the gardens of the Dooars and Darjeeling have increased their population at the rate of over 6,000 a year, so that the whole tea industry must draw off some 60,000 a year from the annual growth of the population. The colonies take about 10,000 a year, the factories of Bengal employ, according to our estimates, 85,000 people, and the annual increase in the number during the last five years has been about 4,000. The coal mines during the same period have absorbed an increase of 10,000 hands a year and their proper development requires an annual addition of at least as great a number. Add to these the spread of employment on the indigo factories, the railways, the Post and Telegraph Departments, and it is safe to assert that against the estimated annual growth of half a million of people in Bengal we can put a figure of about 100,000 as representing the number of persons (mostly adult males) who are every year drawn off the land and enabled to find a livelihood by the " diversity of occupations " which Calcutta trade and English capital create. So mightily does the community represented here to-night co-operate with the Government in meeting the greatest economical danger to which the Indian empire is subject. (Hear, hear.)

These remarks about the growth of population lead us to the great topic of sanitation and the constant effort to reduce the death-rate in which the Government is engaged. The period recently elapsed has seen the extension of the Calcutta water-supply to a large portion of the suburbs, and the project for bringing a new supply into Howrah is nearly completed, which will be a great benefit to several factories in which your capital is invested, and in which, as I am informed, Scotchmen are largely employed ; but the measures started nearly five years ago to prepare a scheme for the riparian municipalities from Barrackpore downwards have not yet taken a concrete form. As to the other branch of sanitation, drainage and sewerage public attention has lately been drawn to its defects in Calcutta, and an address from the Chamber of Commerce has materially strengthened the hands of Government in dealing with a municipality, the guiding body of which is more prone to talk than to action. (Laughter and Applause.) We must all agree that where the expenditure of very large sums is concerned it is right to be cautious and to consult the best authorities, but both the Government and the community are bound to see that caution is not carried too far, and that the fear of incurring expenditure does not outweigh the fear of increased mortality.

It is proper for me here to mention a matter in which Calcutta is only indirectly interested, but which has directly affected the prosperity of the Indian industry in which so much English capital is invested, and the safety of the indigo planters, several of whom are present here to-night. I refer to the troubles which arose out of the agitation to stop the killing of cows, and which led to much antagonism and to conflicts between Hindoos and Mahomedans and to loss of life in many parts of Behar. This wave of feeling was a temporary one, and seems now to have passed away, but it has broken out twice during the last three years, and may break out again. It was a grave and alarming symptom while it lasted and the defeat of the aggressors was due primarily to the vigilance and resolution of the local officers and the good conduct of the police, largely assisted by the co-operation of the planters in the neighbourhood, and by the knowledge that that fine body of volunteers, the Behar Light Horse, could be relied on to restore quiet and to put down any disturbance that might arise. (Cheers.)

This leads me to refer to one detail of purely civil administration which is bound up with the preservation of peace throughout the country and the security of the great amount of English capital invested in Bengal---I mean the Police Department. No department of the Government service has been more bitterly attacked than the police, although all persons acquainted with the subject are agreed that the troubles I have just been speaking of in Behar they behaved uncommonly well, I have never admitted the justice of the attacks made on their efficiency, but at the same time everyone must agree that there is room for improvement---that there are a certain number of black sheep and inefficient persons in the force. The Bengal Government has applied itself earnestly to the introduction of reforms in the police, and Mr. Henderson has already mentioned the principal improvements which have been effected. These reforms have been costly, but we believe that the expenditure incurred will be well recouped to the Province by the improvement in the preservation of order and the punishment of criminals.

Perhaps the most important event which has taken place in the internal administration of the Province during the last five years has been the enlargement of the Legislative Council and the setting apart of some seats in it for the representation of certain important interests. The European community of Calcutta were not directly benefited by this change, because they had always sent up two members of the Council, and under the new regulations only one representative's seat was secured to the Chamber of Commerce ; but it has been found practicable to confer another seat on a member representing the Trades Association and the advantage of his presence in our discussions has been so clearly felt that I conceive this practice is sure to be continued in future. In other respects, as regards the right of interpellation and the financial discussion on the Budget and the extension of legislative authority even to the amendment of laws passed in the Supreme Council, the powers of the Bengal Council have been greatly enlarged, and I think all those who have studied the debates must have felt that they were conducted in a clearer light and a broader atmosphere than before. The legislation which has most concerned Calcutta and the European community has been the Fire Brigade Act, which reapportioned the cost of fire protection in a way which gave sensible relief to the jute industry ; the Municipal Amendment Act, the main object of which was to remove inequalities of assessment and imperfection in account-keeping, and to give the Municipal Commissioners greater powers in regard to internal control ; and the Electric Lighting Bill which is intended to confer the legal powers necessary to enable companies to be started for lighting different areas of this city. It is unfortunate that through a technical difficulty sanction has not yet been given to this Bill, for which I understand Calcutta is anxiously waiting, but we trust that that difficulty will soon be got over. (Hear, hear.) It is a pleasure to acknowledge the help that has been received from the representatives of the Chamber of Commerce and the Trades Association in discussing these measures, and in all our proceedings the non-official members have shown both independence of spirit and critical sagacity. The turn which these discussions have often taken has no doubt added to the technical difficulties of legal drafting, but the Bengal Government desires to acknowledge the benefit which the enlarged constitution of the Council has worked as to the careful consideration of the principles on which legislation is based, the wisdom of compromise, and the reasonable difference to public opinion. At the same time it should not be supposed that the enlargement of the Council has led to greater activity in legislation. On the contrary, I am glad to announce that the Statue Book for the last five years, from 1891 to 1895 inclusive, contains 190 pages, against 357 contributed by legislative activity during the preceding five-year period. (Laughter and applause.)

There are many other subjects which might be dealt with did time permit, but I fear to trespass longer on your patience and will proceed at once to the last item on my list---the financial position of the province, and I need not go into much detail on this subject, because a resolution has lately been drawn up by Mr. Risley and published in the *Gazette* containing all requisite information, and Mr. Henderson has already referred to these figures with some fullness. It is enough to say that the province, which five years ago had a surplus of nearly five lakhs above the minimum balance it is required to retain, is estimated to end the present year with a surplus of 21½ lakhs, and that estimate, I am in a position to say, is certain to be exceeded. (Cheers.) And while these figures are gratifying in themselves, it is still more gratifying to notice the processes by which they are realised. On the one hand, the income of the province has gone on steadily increasing, at the average rate

of about eight lakhs a year, and that not through the imposition of any new taxes or the discovery of any new sources of revenue; it has been the natural growth of the receipts under all heads, and mainly under the great departments of Stamps, Excise, and Railways, and is incontestably due to the increasing wealth and prosperity of the country. (Applause.) On the other hand, the expenditure, governed by principles of rigid economy, such principles as were inculcated by the Finance Committee in which my hon. friend Sir J. Westland collaborated with me, hardly increased at all, except under the heads of police and of the compensation allowance due to fall of exchange, till the present year, when, finding that funds were abundant, large outlay has been sanctioned on important Public Works. I venture to think that it is well to publish and emphasise such results as these in the face of the gloomy and pessimistic criticism to which our financial position in India has so persistently been subjected. (Hear, hear,) Bengal is the only province of the Empire in which the assessment on the land is permanently fixed, so that that source of revenue cannot be materially augmented, and yet so wealthy and prosperous is it that what may be called the by-products of finance, the results of indirect taxation, have brought about a yearly growth of 8 lakhs in the Provincial income, as well as about 12 lakhs in the share paid to the Imperial Government, and meanwhile the obligatory provincial expenditure has not increased by 4 lakhs a year, if we may assume that other provinces in which the Land Revenue is temporarily assessed and is constantly growing, feed the central treasury at anything like the same rate, the treasury is possessed of an assured elasticity of revenue which places it in a high position of financial security which nothing can disturb except a catastrophic fall in exchange or the calamity of war. (Cheers.) No nation in the continent of Europe produces budgets nearly as favourable as this five-year series of Bengal budgets has been; not can they show results financially comparable to those of the Government of India. As long as this is the case, we may fairly ask the gentlemen who write so eligibly about the bankruptcy of India to devote their attention to discussing the bankruptcy of France or Italy or Germany or Austria.

And now, Mr. Chairman, I have come to the end of a long, and I fear a tedious, discourse, for which I have to ask the forgiveness of the audience. (Cheers.) Your cheers assure me that it has not been tedious, and I trust you will also consider that it has not been unduly egotistic. I have tried, under difficult circumstances, to keep that odius monosyllable out of my address, and to substitute the Bengal Government for it, and that for a very good reason. Gentlemen, the work done by the Bengal Government is not the work of one man; it is only in a limited degree that one man can claim to have given to it its bent and direction. It is the work of the Lieutenant-Governor, aided by his staff of secretaries, and supported by the whole body of the service in the various departments, and no Lieutenant-Governor has ever been aided by an abler and more devoted staff of secretaries, or more loyally and efficiently supported by the different branches of the service than I have been. (Cheers.) Nor is it the work of these officials alone, but of a great company of non-officials who voluntarily give their time, their ability, and their experience to the service of the State, and the value and effects of whose co-operation it has been my chief object to set forth and acknowledge to-night.

Five years ago, when you did me the honour to ask me to occupy the position I occupy now, and when I was on the eve of taking up my present office, as I am now on the eve of putting it down, I spoke of the encouragement which an assembly of this kind can give, representing as it does the most active and energetic of the influences which govern our connection with India, and I told you that there was no greater stimulus to a public man to do well than the belief of his countrymen that he will do well. (Cheers.) To that stimulous I owe much, and I have no doubt that you will extend and continue it to my successor, and to all who shall stand in the high and difficult post which it has been my honour to fill. If the remarks I have submitted to you to-night have any value it consists in showing how great is the variety and importance of the duties devolving on the Bengal Government, and how valuable is the support which it receives from the powerful European community in Calcutta and in the interior of the Province.

And there is another side to our connection with Calcutta and Bengal, of which, if I could possibly be forgetful of it, Mr. Henderson's closing remarks, and the presence of this large number of ladies assembled to hear the speeches of to-night would remind me---I mean the social side. However engrossing official life may be, it is not, I am thankful to say, altogether absorbing; it still leaves leisure for the innumerable gracious acts of kindness and courtesy, the giving and receiving of which constitute the happiness of private life. In this sphere in which my wife have reigned supreme (loud cheers) we have good reason to know and gratefully to remember what your opinion is of the way in which she has played her part. Our recollection of this portion of our life will be one long series of lasting friendships and pleasant acquaintanceships made, of unexpected kindnesses received of sympathy in troubles and difficulties, of favourable construction put on our intentions and of gratitude for proffered help and hospitality far exceeding our deserts. Believe me, ladies and gentlemen, it is no slight thing to be able to say, at the end of so long a connection as ours has been with this place, that there has been nothing for us to regret, and nothing to cast a shadow over the pleasant recollections we shall always retain of Calcutta Society. (Cheers.)

And now before I sit down I have a pleasant duty to perform in proposing the health of the Chairman, the Hon. Mr. Playfair, who has so ably and successfully presided over this meeting to-night, and has contributed a speech to which we have all listened with interest, and which will be long remembered by the Scotchmen of Calcutta. I have known him for several years as a colleague in the Bengal and Supreme Council Chambers, and we have shared in many important discussions and hot debates, and whether we have been on the same or on opposite sides I have learnt to feel great respect for his acuteness, his experience and his courtesy. (Applause.) His position as Chairman of the Chamber of Commerce shows what the commercial world think of him, and I have endeavoured in the earlier part of my speech to explain how highly the Bengal Government values the opinion and advice of the Chamber. We have seen to-night how well he fills the chair at a meeting of his brother Scots, and in all these capacities I ask you to drink his health. (Cheers.)

THE DOG, THE MAN, AND THE MEAT.

A FRIEND of mine and I were walking together the other day; a dog dashed past us after something he saw on the pavement. It was a big piece of meat. He pounced on it and swallowed it in two seconds. My companion looked at the dog with envious admiration. "My humble friend," he said, "I'll give you £5,000 for your appetite and your digestion. *you* are not afraid to eat; I am." But the dog knew what happiness is made of. He declined the offer and trotted away.

It is astonishing how many different people use this expression. "I am" or "I was" afraid to eat. As the writer pens these lines five letters lie on the table before him, every one of them containing it. Yet the persons who wrote the letters are not known to one another. There was, therefore, no agreement among them. Why should there be, even if they *were* acquainted?

No, there is nothing in it to wonder at. They went through the same experience, and express it in the most natural way, that's all.

But what does it mean? Are people suspicious of poisoned food? No, no; that is not so. The food is not poisoned before it is eaten, but afterwards. An example will show what really occurs, and why so many are afraid to eat.

We quote from one of the letters: "One night, early in 1892," says the writer, "I was seized with dreadful pains in the pit of the stomach, and a choking sensation in the throat. I feared I was going to die. My wife called in a neighbour. They applied hot flannels and turpentine, but I got no relief. Then a doctor came and gave me medicine. He said he never saw anyone's tongue in such a condition. It was of a yellow colour, and covered with a slimy phlegm, so thick I could have scraped it with a knife. I had a foul, bitter taste in the mouth, and my eyes were so dull I could scarcely see. I had a heavy pain in the side, and felt so dejected and miserable I didn't know what to do with myself. What little food I took gave me so much pain *I was afraid to eat.* The doctor put me on starvation diet, and injected morphine to ease the pain.

'Getting no real benefit from the first doctor I saw another, who said I had enlargement of the liver. He gave me medicines, but I got no better. In August I went to Exmouth to see what my native air would do for me, but came back worse than ever. I had lost over three stone in weight, and being too weak to move about I used to lie on the couch most of the time. I never expected to get well, and didn't care much what became of me.

"One day in October my wife said, '*It appears the doctors can do nothing for you, so I am going to doctor you myself.*' She went to the Southern Drug Stores, in Camberwell Road, and got a bottle of Mother Seigel's Curative Syrup. After taking this medicine for a few days the pain in my stomach left me, my appetite improved, and I gained some strength. Soon afterwards I was back at my work. The people in the office, seeing how well I looked, asked what had cured me, and I answered Mother Seigel's Syrup. I shall be glad to reply to any inquiries about my case. (Signed) Charles Harris, 74, Beresford Street, Camberwell, London, December 1st, 1892."

Mr. Harris' statement goes straight to the point. Why was he afraid to eat? Because his food gave him pain without giving him strength. This was dead wrong. It was exactly the reverse of what it should have been. When a man is the proper form he gets vigour and power from his meals, and eats them with enjoyment and relish. If he doesn't there is something the matter with him. What is it?

Now let your thoughts expand a bit, so as to take in a broad principle. One man's meat is another man's poison, they say. That's so, but it's only half the truth. *Any man's meat is any man's poison*, under certain conditions. If grain never got any further than the mill hopper we should never have bread, and if bread (or other food) never got further than the stomach we should never have strength. See? Well, when the stomach is torpid, inflamed, and "ON STRIKE," what happens? Why, your food lies in it and rots. The fermentations produces poisons which get into the blood and kicks up the worst sort of mischief all over the body. This is indigestion and dyspepsia, though the doctors call each and every trick of it by a separate name. Yet they don't cure it which is the main thing after all.

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from Metha, Mr. R. D.
to Mitra, the late Raja Dr. Rajendralala.
to Mookerjee, late Raja Dakhinaranjan.
from Mookerjee, Mr. J. C.
from M'Neil, Professor H (San Francisco).
to, from Murshidabad, the Nawab Bahadoor of.
from Nityaratna, Mahamahapadhya M.C.
from Osborn, the Late Colonel Robert D.
to Rao, Mr. G. Venkata Appa.
to Rao, the late Sir T. Madhava.
to Rattigan, Sir William H.
from Rosebery, Earl of.
to, from Routledge, Mr. James.
from Russell, Sir W. H.
to Row, Mr. G. Swamila.
to Sastri, the Hon'ble A. Sashiah.
to Sinha, Babu Brahmananda.
from Sircar, Dr. Mahendralal.
from Stanley, Lord, of Alderley.
from, to Townsend, Mr. Meredith.
to Underwood, Captain T. O.
to, from Vambéry, Professor Arminius.
to Venkataramaniah, Mr. G.
to Vizianagram, Maharaja of.
to, from Wallace, Sir Donald Mackenzie.
to Wood-Mason, the Late Professor J.

LETTERS (& TELEGRAMS) OF CONDOLENCE, from
Abdus Subhan, Moulvi A. K. M.
Ameer Hossein, Hon'ble Nawab Syed.
Ardagh, Colonel Sir J. C.
Banerjee, Babu Manmathanath.
Banerjee, Rai Bahadur, Shib Chunder.
Barth, M. A.
Belchambers, Mr. R.
Deb, Babu Manohar.
Dutt, Mr. O. C.
Dutt, Babu Prosaddoss.
Elgin, Lord.
Ghose, Babu Norend K.
Ghosh, Babu Kali Prasanna.
Graham, Mr William.
Hill, Dr. Fitz Edward.
Haridas Viharidas Desai, the late Dewan.
Iyer, Mr. A. Krishnaswami.
Limbert, Sir John.
Mahomed, Moulvi Syed.
Mitra, Mr B. C.
Mitter, Babu Sidheshur.
Mookerjee, Raja Peary Mohan.
Mookerjee, Babu Surendra Nath.
Murshidabad, the Nawab Bahadoor of.
Routledge, Mr. James.
Roy, Babu E. C.
Roy, Babu Sirat Chunder.
Sanyal, Babu Dinabundho.
Swiftt Library.
Tippera, the Bara Thakur of.
Vambéry, Professor Arminius.
Vizianagram, the Maharaja of.

POSTSCRIPT.

After paying the expenses of the publication the surplus will be placed wholly at the disposal of the family of the deceased man of letters.

Orders to be made to the Business Manager, "An Indian Journalist," at the Bee Press, 1 Uckoor Dutt's Lane, Wellington Street, Calcutta.

OPINION ON THE BOOK.

It is a most interesting record of the life of a remarkable man.—Mr H. Babington Smith, Private Secretary to the Viceroy, 5th October, 1895.

Dr Mookerjee was a famous letter-writer, and there is a breezy freshness and originality about his correspondence which make it very interesting reading.—Sir Alfred W. Croft, K.C.I.E., Director of Public Instuction, Bengal. 26th September, 1895.

It is not that amid the pressure of harassing official duties an English Civilian can find either time or opportunity to pay so graceful a tribute to the memory of a native personality as F. H. Skrine has done in his biography of the late Dr. Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee, the well-known Bengal journalist (Calcutta: Thacker, Spink and Co.); nor are there many who are more worthy of being thus honoured than the late Editor of *Reis and Rayyet.*

We may at any rate cordially agree with Mr. Skrine that the story of Mookerjee's life, with all its lights and shadows, is pregnant with lessons for those who desire to know the real India.

No weekly paper, Mr. Skrine tells us, not even the *Hindoo Patriot*, in its palmiest days under Kristodas Pal, enjoyed a degree of influence in any way approaching that which was soon attained by *Reis and Rayyet.*

A man of large heart and great qualities, his death from pneumonia in the early spring in the last year was a distinct and heavy loss to Indian journalism, and it was an admirable idea on Mr Skrine's part to put his Life and Letters upon record.—*The Times of India*, (Bombay) September 30, 1895.

It is rarely that the life of an Indian journalist becomes worthy of publication, it is more rarely still that such a life comes to be written by an Anglo Indian and a member of the Indian Civil Service. But, it has come to pass that in the land of the Bengali Babus, the life of at least one man among Indian journalists has been considered worthy of being written by an Englishman.—*The Madras Standard*, (Madras) September 30, 1895.

The late Editor of *Reis and Rayyet* was a profound student and an accomplished writer, who has left his mark on Indian journalism. In that he has found a Civilian like Mr. Skrine to record the story of his life he is more fortunate than the great Kristodas Pal himself.—*The Tribune*, (Lahore) October 2, 1895.

For much of the biographical matter that issues so freely from the press an apology is needed. Had no biography of Dr. Mookerjee, the Editor of *Reis and Rayyet*, appeared, an explanation would have been looked for. A man of his remarkable personality, who was easily first among native Indian journalists, and in many respects occupied a higher plane than they did, and looked at public affairs from a different point of view from theirs, could not be suffered to sink into oblivion without some

attempt to perpetuate his memory by the usual expedient of a "life." The difficulties common to all biographers have in this case been increased by special circumstances, not the least of which is that the author belongs to a different race from the subject. It is true that among Englishmen there were many admirers of the learned Doctor, and that he on his side understood the English character as few foreigners understand it. But in spite of this and his remarkable assimilation of English modes of thought and expression, Dr. Mookerjee remained to the last a Brahman of the Brahmans—a conservation of the best of his inheritance that wins nothing but respect and approval. In consequence of this, his ideal biographer would have been one of his own disciples, with the same inherited sympathies, and trained like him in Western learning. If Bengal had produced such another man as Dr. Mookerjee, it was he who should have written his life.

The biography is warmly appreciative without being needlessly laudatory; it gives on the whole a complete picture of the man; and in the book there is not a dull page.

A few of the letters addressed to Dr. Mookerjee are of such minor importance that they might have been omitted with advantage, but not a word of his own letters could have been spared. To say that he writes idiomatic English is to say what is short of the truth. His diction is easy and correct, clear and straightforward, without Oriental luxuriance or striving after effect. Perhaps he is never so charming as when he is laying down the laws of literary form to young aspirants to fame. The letter on page 285, for instance, is a delightful piece of criticism: it is delicate plain-speaking, and he accomplishes the difficult feat of telling a would-be poet that his productions are not in the smallest degree poetry, without one may conclude, either offending the youth or repressing his ardour.

For much more that is well worth reading we must refer readers to the volume itself. Intrinsically it is a book worth buying and reading. —The *Pioneer*, (Allahabad) Oct. 5, 1895.

The career of "An Indian Journalist" as described by F. H. Skrine of the Indian Civil Service is exceedingly interesting.

Mookerjee's letters are marvels of pure diction which is heightened by his nervous style.

The life has been told by Mr. Skrine in a very pleasant manner and which should make it popular not only with Bengalis but with all those who are able to appreciate merit unmarred by ostentation and earnestness unspoiled by boastfulness.—The *Muhammadan*, (Madras) Oct. 5, 1895.

The work leaves nothing to be desired either in the way of completeness, impartiality, or lifelike portrayal of character.

Mr. Skrine deals with his interesting subject with the unfailing instinct of the biographer. Every side of Dr. Mookerjee's complex character is treated with sympathy tempered by discrimination.

Mr. Skrine's narrative certainly impresses one with the individuality of a remarkable man.

Mookerjee's own letters show that he had not only acquired a command of clear and flexible English but that he had also assimilated that sturdy independence of thought and character which is supposed to be a peculiar possession of natives of Great Britain. His reading and the stores of his general information appear to have been, considering his opportunities, little less than marvellous.

One of the first to express his condolence with the family of the deceased writer was the present Viceroy, Lord Elgin. Mookerjee appears to have won the affection not only of the dignitaries with whom he came in contact, but also of those in low estate.

The impression left upon the mind upon laying down the book is that of a good and able man whose career has been graphically portrayed.—The *Englishman*, (Calcutta) October 15, 1895.

The career of an eminent Bengali editor, who died in 1894, throws a curious light upon the race elements and hereditary influences which affect the criticisms of Indian journalists on British rule.

The "Life and Letters of Dr. S. C. Mookerjee," a book just edited by a distinguished civilian in Calcutta, takes us behind the scenes of Indian journalism.

It is a narrative, written with insight and a complete mastery of the facts, of how a clever youth gradually grew into one of the ablest leader-writers in Bengal, and still more gradually matured into one of the fairest-minded editors that western education in India has yet produced. If the training and experience which develop the journalist in England are sometimes varied, they seem in India to have an even wider range.

But the object of this notice is to show how a great Bengali journalist is made; space forbids us to enter upon his actual performances. They will be found set forth at sufficient length, and with much felicity of expression, in Mr. Skrine's admirable monograph. It is characteristic of the noble service to which Mr. Skrine belongs, that such a book should have issued from its ranks. Dr. Mookerjee was no optimist. One of his brilliant speeches contained the following sentence:—"India has neither the soil nor the elasticity enjoyed by young and vigorous communities, but present the arid rocks and deserts of an effete civilization, hardly stirred to a semblance of life by a foreign occupation dozing over its easily-gained advantages." This was true of the pre-Mutiny India of 1851. If it is no longer true of the Queen's India of 1895, we owe it in no small measure to Indian journalists like Dr. Mookerjee who have laboured, amid some misrepresentation, to quicken the "semblance of life" into a living reality.—The *Times*, (London) October 14, 1895.

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DROIT ET AVANT

Rejs and Rayyet

(PRINCE & PEASANT)

WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

VOL. XIV. CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 21, 1895. WHOLE NO. 704.

CONTEMPORARY POETRY.

THE SERPENT OF VERNAG.

A KASHMIR LEGEND.

In the reign of Jan Mohumed,
The mighty and wise Wuzeer,
There dwelt a noble at Atchi-Bul,
A noble and also a *Pir*.

Of course he had a daughter,
Of course she was lovely and young,
But the rest of my lay is not of course,
As you 'll say when you 've heard it sung.

This nobleman's daughter she fell in love,
As noblemen's daughters *will* do ;
The fortunate man had a handsome face,
And a handsome fortune too.

The son of a merchant of substance,
He certainly savored of trade ;
But nobles don't *always* ask questions
How son-in-law's money was made.

Of course "blue blood" is a great fact,
But it must occasionally fail ;
But—and now, perhaps, like a monkey—
I'd better run after my *tale*.

Well, the nobleman's daughter was happy,
And so was the young millionaire ;
And the terrible nonsense they chattered
Was really a caution—I'll swear.

One day the young lady reflected—
My lover is rich and all that ;
But I hope he's a thorough "bahadur,"
I won't wed a coward that's flat.

The next time her lover came seeking
For sweet conversation and tea,
The princess was grave and dejected ;
He wondered what 'ere it could be.

Quoth the lady, "Dear Ahmed, I've heard
Of a horrible snake at Vernag,
And the animal's *very existence*
Is on your known prowess a 'dag.'

"Now go 'like a goodie' and kill him ;
Be worshipped by great and by small,
While your loving and faithful Azizee
Will worship you *nicer* than all !"

Young Ahmed he twirled his mustachios ;
He didn't quite fancy the game,
But he glanced at his peerless Azizee,
And soon became "perfectly tame."

"My fairest !" he answered with fervour,
"My bulbul, my pishpash, and butter !
I'll slay that most, ah ! horrible serpent,
Or else I'll come back on a shutter."

"Oh, you darling !" quoth lovely Azizee,
"Now, the sooner you do it the better ;
Pack your things, and be off to Vernag ;
When you get there, why, send me a letter."

Young Ahmed he twirled his mustachios,
Kissed his love, took his sword, and said, "How !
"Good-bye, my most peerless of maids, and
Just mention my trip to Papa."

Our hero soon got to Vernag,
And sought out the haunt of the snake ;
How he longed, as the spot he drew near,
That his sword he could honestly break !

Now, nigh to the home of the serpent
There dwelt a recluse of renown,
Of whose wisdom and knowledge young Ahmed
Had frequently heard in the town.

The *Pir* as our lover drew nearer,
Stepped out from his hole in the rock,
And addressed him in language familiar,
"How goes it, my handsome young cock ?

"If *you* are come after the serpent,
I'll mention, by way of advice,
That I'd strongly advise you 'to drop it ;'
You'll find he is 'dear at the price.'

"Already eight gallant young fellows
This serpent has quietly 'chawed ;'
They were all of them through 'bahadurs,'
And all very neat with the sword.

"If you'll take the advice of a party
Who knows the old serpent right well,
You 'll just let that serpent alone,
And thereby will give him a 'sell.'

"He's watching you under the water,
He's thinking how nice you will taste
In fact, he is ready for battle,
And wishes you'd only make haste.

DEAFNESS. An essay describing a really genuine Cure for Deafness, Singing in Ears, &c., no matter how severe or long-standing, will be sent post free.—Artificial Ear drums and similar appliances entirely superseded. Address THOMAS KEMPE, VICTORIA CHAMBERS, 19, SOUTHAMPTON BUILDING, HOLBORN, LONDON.

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"I knew what you came for at once, and,
Excuse me, I think you 're a fool;
But all you young fellows in love are
Exempt from each ordinary rule.

"Just go back, and if Mistress Azizee
Persists in her conduct inhuman,
Why, take the advice of a friend,
And look out for another young woman!"

Young Ahmed he twirled his mustachios,
Drew his sword, and gave vent to a "haw,"
When the snake, o'er the top of the waters,
Revealed his most terrible maw.

"Just take my advice!" cried the *Pir*.
Quoth Ahmed, "I certainly mean to;
But see what a fool I shall look,
And what an expense I have been to!"

Quoth the *Pir*,—"These eight foolish young men
Who tackled the snake in the water,
Will ne'er have a chance, I'll be bound,
Of espousing a nobleman's daughter;

"You have—Now do as I tell you,
Go back, and just out with the truth;
If she makes any fuss she's a fool,
And you are a sensible youth."

Young Ahmed he sheathed his tulwar,
And returned to fair Islamabad,
He told his princess "all about it,"
And what an escape he had had.

Azizee just pouted a little,
And vowed that his failure would fret her,
Then whispered, "I think you were right,
And the sooner we're married the better!"

—*Indian Society.*

WEEKLYANA.

A MERRY Christmas to all our Christian readers!

According to an Anglo-Indian,
Christmas at Home is one unique—
While out in India or Mozambique,
Or other ungodly diggings you seek,
It is little better than murder!

Whatever the case in other diggings, it is different in India. The severity of climate is a great bar to the true enjoyment of the festive season even "at Home." Here, besides a clement weather obviating the necessity of log fire, you have the spectacle and the satisfaction of other nationalities contributing to and taking part in the merriment. You must not blame the country if you are not prepared for more than

Beaten Bajaruk plum-pooteen;
Burra, mind you, pigul:
Khitmutghar ko bolo. Maheen
Kurke-mineh, meat superfine.
Oos ki oopur tora wine
Dey do. Aur ak chagul
Hallul kurdo,—o burra din!

***

FROM Christmas to Congress. They are now inseparable in India. For the last 10 years, the merry season is associated with the annual demonstration for political privileges for the Indians. Would all classes took part and peace prevailed! The delegates have been appointed and they are preparing to start. Great efforts have been made to have Bengal adequately represented, specially as a Bengali will preside. With all its imperfections, we expect a practical session of the National Assembly, for no mere palavering will satisfy the Poona patriots.

***

THE advent of the Prince of Peace bodes no good to the Lushais. The Chief Kairuma must be humbled to the dust, for his defiant attitude and refusal to comply with our demands for coolies. A force of 300 rifles of the North Lushai Military Police, with 3 British officers and 1 mountain gun has been told off for the purpose from Fort Aijal. Small columns of 100 rifles, with one mountain gun each, will co-operate from Lungleh and Palan, and it is intended that the Assam, Bengal, and Burma columns will meet at Kairuma's principal village on Christmas Day.

***

THE new rule in Bengal is thus announced in an Extraordinary issue of the *Calcutta Gazette*:—

"The 17th December 1895.—The Honourable Sir Alexander Mackenzie, K.C.S.I, of the Indian Civil Service, having been appointed by His Excellency the Governor-General of India, with the approbation of Her Majesty the Queen-Empress of India, to be Lieutenant-Governor of the Bengal Division of the Presidency of Fort William, has this day (afternoon) assumed charge of the Office under the usual salute.

"The Honourable the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal has been pleased to make the following appointments:—

Captain John William Currie to be Private Secretary to the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal.

Captain George Corytan Lister to be an *Aide-de-Camp* on the personal staff of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal."

***

AN unusually beautiful diamond of 655 carats has been found in the Jagersfontein mine in the Orange Free State.

***

THE Postal insurance originally sanctioned for the Postal and Telegraph Departments, has been extended to all Government servants in subordinate positions.

***

THE Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal has authorised, under section 54 (2) of the Bengal Tenancy Act, which, with certain other portions of the Act, has been extended to Orissa by Government Notification, dated 10th September, 1891, that from the 1st January, 1896, the payment of rent by means of postal money-order shall be allowed in the district of Puri.

***

AT the Alipur Criminal Sessions, Raghu Nundan Singh, an upcountry man, charged with having, over a monetary dispute, stabbed a man to death, has been sentenced to ten years' imprisonment. The jury properly found him not guilty of murder. The man had no intention to kill but wanting money to repay a loan for which there was a pressing demand, in the heat of the moment, he used the dagger he had in hand for a different purpose, and wounded his dunning creditor to death.

***

THE following rule which has, with the approval of the Lieutenant-Governor, been added to Rule 48 of the revised rules framed under section 69 of Act III of 1877 (the Indian Registration Act), is published for general information:—

In the case of European ladies and gentlemen and other persons of position, regarding whose identification there can be no doubt or room for suspicion, a discretion is allowed to the registering officer, and he is empowered to relax the rule in such instances, notwithstanding that the executant may not be personally known to him. In regard to *purda nashin* ladies no exemption can be allowed, and they should in all cases be required to affix the impression of their thumb mark either before the registering officer or in the presence of the person who identifies them.

Identification by finger prints has also been sanctioned by the Madras Government. It is a dirty system at best and we are not sure that it is the safest. The exception allowed by the Bengal Government must ere long be made more general to make the rule acceptable, if at all. By the bye, is it left to Government to introduce any form of identification?

***

IT is gazetted that the Lieutenant-Governor is pleased to prescribe that a recommendation for a nomination to one seat in his Council for making Laws and Regulations shall be made to him by the municipalities of Cuttack, Kendrapara, Balasore and Puri in the Orissa Division and those of Hazaribagh, Chatra, Ranchi and Purulia in the Chota Nagpur Division. In this connection we have received the following telegram from Balasore:

"At a special meeting of the Balasore Municipality convened to elect a representative for the ensuing election of a member for the Bengal Legislative Council, Babu Radha Charan Das, Vice-Chairman, was elected representative with instructions to record his vote in favour of Babu Madhusudan Das, Pleader, Cuttack. A proposal to give the municipality's vote to Raja Bukunthanath Dey in case Babu Madhusudan Das withdraws his candidature, was opposed and ultimately withdrawn."

Raja Baikunthanath has already sat as a member under the old nomination system. He seems to be at a discount at the present moment. Baboo Hurryballub Bose, Government Pleader, Cuttack, as a Government servant, is, we believe, disqualified, or else he would have been a good representative of Orissa, where he has himself lived long and prospered and where other members of his family have been well-known. Is there no candidate from the other Division?

***

MACNAMARA filters have had their day in India. It is now the turn of the Pasteur filters, for which orders have been issued for the British troops.

***

LORD Dalhousie's letters on the first Burmese war are about to see the light through the enterprise of Mr. George W. Forrest, who in his hunt after old books in a bookshop on the Quay at Dublin, chanced upon eighty-four of them written to Sir Arthur Phayre, the first Chief Commissioner of Burma. Mr. Forrest has published extracts from these letters in the *Athenæum*.

***

ANOTHER discovery of the missing link! This time not in Europe but in Asia. Dr. Eugene Dubois outDarwins Darwin. As the fortunate finder, he is making much in Great Britain of the find. Under orders of the Dutch Indian Government he was conducting explorations in Java when 3 or 4 years ago he came upon some fossil vertebrate fauna at Trinil, on the Southern slope of a range of hills, the Kenvengs. These remains found in beds of cemented volcanic tuffs, consisting of clay, sand and lapphistone of fluviatile origin, he identifies as those of a large animal in form seemingly intermediate between the anthropoid apes and man. They are the upper portion of a skull, a femur and two or three molar teeth. Coming from pliocene strata, they have been named "Pithecanthropus erectus." The bones have been examined by others. Sir W. H. Flower finds it difficult from the few fragments to say what they really are, but is of opinion that they showed more tendencies to the man side than any other remains he had ever seen.

***

OUR Monghyr correspondent writes under date Jamalpore, Dec. 15:

This station was full of bustle for a fortnight from the 2nd to the 14th instant, owing to the volunteer camp of exercise. There were exercises of sorts, parades, mock-fights, &c. Volunteers came from different stations, on the railway line and were housed in tents pitched on the maidan in military array. The display, however, had no effect on thieves and burglars who were more ubiquitous than ever.

In the native portion of the town, named Noyagong, smallpox rages furiously. It threatens to be epidemic. The local municipality, on the recommendation of the E. I. Railway Company's medical officer, has placed guards on affected houses to prevent communication with the outside public. The object evidently is to arrest the march of the disease by infection. The idea may be good, but the question is, How are the patients to be treated and cared for? If all communication with the outer world be cut off, how are the inmates of the houses to live? Their perpetual confinement exposes them to more than the usual risks of attack. The intelligent natives or Baboos attached to several offices, as a rule, give intimation to the Doctor and their office-masters of an outbreak of the disease in their quarters and are not permitted to attend office during its continuance. The illiterate Beharis do not shew the least anxiety. They save themselves all trouble by allowing the disease to run its natural course, and apprehend no danger from contagion. The strict municipal regulation is calculated to do more harm than good. For one thing, all the cases are not reported.

I am sorry to write that Babu Dheeraj Karan, M. A., B. L., Government Pleader, Monghyr, is dead. He was ailing for some time from diabetes.

DEAFNESS COMPLETELY CURED! Any person suffering from Deafness, Noises in the Head, &c., may learn of a new, simple treatment, which is proving very successful in completely curing cases of all kinds. Full particulars, including many unsolicited testimonials and newspaper press notices, will be sent post free on application. The system is, without doubt, the most successful ever brought before the public. Address, Aural Specialist, Albany Buildings, 39, Victoria Street, Westminster, London, S. W.

NOTES & LEADERETTES,

OUR OWN NEWS,

&

FIVE WEEK'S TELEGRAMS IN BRIEF, WITH OCCASIONAL COMMENTS.

THE troubles of the Turks multiply. The Turkish treasury is empty, and the Ottoman Bank refuses to make any further advances.

A trifle light as air or smoke may upset the suspicious. A sudden and intense panic, ending in a stampede, of Christians and Armenians throughout Constantinople, took place on Thursday, owing to the firing of a revolver in a private quarrel.

As Her Majesty's ship Dryad, the new guardship for the British Embassy, was passing the fort at the entrance to the Dardanelles an alarm was given and the gunners stood to their guns immediately, proving the vigilance over the defences of the Straits.

The Sultan has issued an irade decreeing the merciless punishment of all murderers and pillagers, and ordering his troops to forcibly suppress any disorders.

One thousand Armenians have taken refuge in the Black Sea ports. The Kurds are pillaging without opposition in all directions, and one hundred and sixty villages have been plundered during the last three weeks.

Thousands of Armenians in Armenia have embraced Islamism to escape death.

The extra French, Austrian and Russian guardships have arrived in the Bosphorus.

A body of Turkish troops attacked the Cretan reformers, but were repulsed with a loss of twenty-four killed and thirty-six wounded. Reinforcements are going to their assistance. The latest advices state that a general rising throughout the island is feared. The Governor has asked for reinforcements.

The general situation at Constantinople is viewed with less disquiet, though reports from the provinces continue to be unsatisfactory.

BEFORE the new Eastern Question in Europe is settled, a war cloud appears in the serene horizon of the New World. President Cleveland has sent a Message to Congress in which he states that, in view of Great Britain's refusal to accept arbitration in the Venezuela frontier question, he recommends Congress to appoint a Commission to determine the true frontier; and it will be the duty of America to resist by every means in her power any attempt on the part of Great Britain to take territory which that Commission may adjudge to Venezuela. President Cleveland concludes by saying that he keenly realizes the gravity of the possible consequences of this proposal. The President prefixes this warlike utterance by a laboured refutation of Lord Salisbury's contention that America is giving a new and strange extension to the Monroe doctrine, which is unknown in international law. Anyhow, it is not applicable to the pending question. The Message was most heartily applauded by the Members of Congress. The London journals are unanimous in rejecting the claims set forth in President Cleveland's message as preposterous, although they recognize that they are a party electoral move. President Cleveland, they add, has raised a grave international question. The American papers approve of the President's message, but the *New York World* calls it a grave blunder, and says that it is absurd to contend that Great Britain is not an American Power. It condemns the mischievous extension of the Monroe doctrine to a paltry boundary dispute in South America, which would be likely to provoke endless complications in Europe; and advises the exercise of prudence in dealing with the question. The Canadian press applauds Lord Salisbury's action, and urges the Canadian Government to look to the defences of the frontier. The French papers refuse emphatically to recognize President Cleveland's assertion regarding the Monroe doctrine. The Continental press is mostly astounded at the demands made.

A meeting of the New York Chamber of Commerce has been summoned to protest against President Cleveland's action.

The House of Representatives on the 18th unanimously passed a Bill authorizing the President to appoint the Commission and granting one hundred thousand dollars towards the expenses of the same.

The Senate introduced a Bill granting a credit of one hundred million dollars (twenty millions sterling) for the increase of one million rifles, one thousand field guns, and five thousand fort guns. On the 19th, on a motion brought forward by Senator Morgan, supported by Senator Sherman, it was decided to refer the Venezuelan Commission Bill, which had been passed by the House of Representatives, to the Foreign Committee. Both speakers supported President Cleveland's policy, but deprecated any hasty action in the matter.

SIR Michael Hicks-Beach, Chancellor of the Exchequer, speaking at Bristol, said that, although kinship does not preclude war between Britain and America, he believed that neither country wanted war, and he hoped that a peaceful and honourable result of the question at issue between the two Governments would be arrived at.

MR. Carlisle, Secretary to the American Treasury, estimates that the deficit for the current year will amount to seventeen million dollars. He proposes to cancel greenbacks and reduce the small paper currency, in order to make room for silver coins and certificates.

PARLIAMENT will meet on February 11.

THE Duchess of York has given birth to a son.

SIGNOR Crispi, speaking in the Italian Chamber of Deputies, defended the policy of Government in Abyssinia, and said that the defeat of the Italians at Ambalagi would change nothing. General Baratieri, he added, retained their confidence, and Government proposed to pacify the occupied provinces and fortify the frontier. After a speech by Signor Crispi, in which he engaged to abstain from further Colonial expansion, the Chamber passed credits amounting to twenty million francs towards the war in Abyssinia by a large majority.

M. Bourgeois, the French Premier, has asked for a credit of seventeen million francs for Madagascar.

The arrival last week of Lord Elgin was private and there was no guard of honour. Only the Commissioner of Police and the Chairman of the Corporation met him at the Ghat, the attendance of other officials, either there or at Government House, being dispensed with. A salute was fired and a detachment of the Body-guard escorted the Viceroy, through the Strand Road and Esplanade Row, into Government House by the north-west entrance.

Since then he has been besieged with private interviews and applications for the same purpose, and been otherwise busy with ceremonial functions. Last Saturday he presided at a Farewell Dinner at Government House to Sir Charles and Lady Elliott. On Monday, the 16th, he was present at Sir Charles Elliott's farewell Garden Party at Belvedere. The same night he stood the ordeal of the Levée. Next day he unveiled the marble statue of Sir Stewart Colvin Bayley near the south of the Treasury Buildings. The Drawing Room of Lady Elgin came off on the 19th.

THE attendance at the Levée was less by about 300 than in the preceding year. Last year the number was 1,269. This time it fell to 1,009 as will be found from our following analysis of the List published in the morning papers. The hour is assumed to Asiatics. The inevitable exposure on a cold December mid-night on the grand stair-case while waiting for the carry, not to speak of the ups and downs and the barricades to prevent the rush, keeps away many from the loyal bow. Are better arrangements not possible? Formerly, as now in Bombay, the Levée in Calcutta would be held in the afternoon. That was not convenient to Europeans. But the change is positively disagreeable to the natives. A return to the afternoon would also be acceptable to the general public who might enjoy from a distance the ceremony as a show.

Private Entrée	... 103—Asiatics... 16	...Europeans...	87
Public Entrée	... 698—Asiatics...226	...Europeans...	472
New Presentations	... 208—Asiatics... 63	...Europeans...	145
Actually Present	... 1,009—Asiatics ..305	...Europeans...	704
Unavoidably absent	... 401—Asiatics...139	...Europeans...	262

For easy comparison we reproduce the analysis of last year:

Private Entrée	... 113—Asiatics ... 24	Europeans ...	89
Public Entrée	... 951—Asiatics ...227	Europeans ...	724
New Presentations	205—Asiatics ... 32	Europeans ...	173
Actually Present	...1,269—Asiatics ...283	Europeans ...	986
Unavoidably Absent	369—Asiatics ...148	Europeans ...	221

AN extraordinary number of the "Trichinopoly District Gazettee" was issued as early as the 1st of November announcing the visit to Trichinopoly of the Viceroy. It reproduced a notification published in its number of the 3rd of December 1886 on the occasion of the visit of the then Viceroy, for the information of Native gentlemen attending the Levée. It contains the following instructions:

"(i) The head dress should consist of a turban.

(ii) The external dress should be a long robe; a waist band or girdle should be worn over or under the robe; the lower limbs should be carefully covered; loose shawls are inadmissible.

(iii) Graduates of any University may wear their academical robes.

(iv) The feet need not be covered. If shoes or boots be worn, they must be of black polished leather."

There are not wanting Indian patriots who will resent the sartorial prescription as an unwarrantable interference. It is not so. Every Court has its regulations. In India, under the British rule, the natives have begun unchecked to shew a lamentable disregard in that behalf. It is time they should be reminded of what the dress of a durbari should be. In Calcutta we very much want a sumptuary regulation. It is not enough that objectionable persons should not be allowed. Those privileged to appear must be properly dressed.

MR. P. M. Mehta, M. A., C. I. E., having been recommended a second time by the non-official Members of the Council of the Governor of Bombay, has been accepted as an Additional Member of the Governor-General's Council. Another entirely new appointment is that of Rao Sahib Balwant Rao Bhaskar, Jaghirdar of Tumsar, in the Hoshangabad District, on the recommendation of the Chief Commissioner of the Central Provinces. The name of Mr. Mehta is perfectly familiar at Calcutta where he has already won glory and been fêted and lionized. The other member is not an utter stranger to us. We know him by his father, the late Govindrao, who had visited this city in the seventies. We give him welcome and expect him to be as useful in Council as his immediate predecessor from the same Provinces.

WE annex the names of those personages and persons who are foremost in giving their substantial support to Mr. Skrine's book "An Indian Journalist: being the Life, Letters and Correspondence of Dr. Sambhu C. Mookerjee, Late Editor of *Reis and Rayyet*."

The Nawab Bahadur of Moorshedabad	...	copies	20
The Maharajas Sirmoor	...	,,	20
Dewan Jai Prakash Lal of Dumraon	...	,,	20
Rao Gangut Sing	...	,,	10
Raja Rajendra Narayan Roy of Burwah	...	,,	20
Syed Imdad Imam	...	,,	13
Dewan Devendra Nath Dutt of Hatwa	...	,,	20
Rai Bahadur Srish Chunder Banerjee	...	,,	10
Government of Bengal, General Department	...	,,	3
Director of Public Instruction, Bengal	...	,,	6
Raja Ranajit Singh of Nashipur	...	,,	10
Maharaja Sir Lachmeshur Singh Bahadur of Durbhanga, (sixty-five to be placed at the disposal of the widow of the deceased Doctor.)	...	,,	75
Mr. R. D. Mehta	...	,,	20
Director of Public Instruction, Nizam's Dominions		,,	10
Government of India, Home Department	...	,,	20

The Governments of Bombay, the Punjab, the N.-W. Provinces and the Administrations of the Central Provinces, Burma, and Assam have ordered copies of the book. A Bengali gentleman, who does not wish to be named, having purchased and read a copy of the book, was ashamed to find that a generous Englishman had taken upon himself the duty of preserving the memory of one of Bengal's greatest sons and paid Rs. 100 towards the expenses of the publication.

WE are grieved to learn by the last mail that that true Friend of India, Mr. James Routledge, has been unwell for several weeks. We hope that he will soon be restored to health and that India will long continue to receive his watchful and sympathetic attention.

HER Majesty the Queen has approved of the appointment of Major-General Sir E. H. H. Collen to the Viceroy's Council in place of General Sir H. Brackenbury.

THE knell of the Inspector-Generalship of Registration in Bengal has been sounded. That probably accounts for the recent appointments.

THERE died, in the Hooghly District, on the morning of the 12th of December, at the age of 47, of locomotor ataxy, Babu Jonokey Nath Mookerjee, the Lord of Bonchee. His grandfather, the late Babu Thakoor Mookerjee, had made himself a name But the grandson will not be less remembered A genial soul, full of the milk of human kindness, with a huge heart, the death of Baboo Jonokeynath is a calamity to his native place. Of gentlemanly feelings, and liberal to a fault, his loss will be mourned by all those who ever came in contact with him in any capacity, whether as a patron, a master, a friend, a benefactor or a neighbour. We knew him long but never found him in ill temper, although suffering from an unsparing chronic complaint. His purse was open to all, yet his left hand knew not what his right hand did. If he had cared for any titles, he might have long earned them by his charity. Disabled by sickness, he was a ready help to all who sought it, and he exhausted his little fortune for the good of many. He expended like a prince, whether in entertaining his friends or patronizing the trades, while not unmindful of the claims of the poor and the needy Honourable in his dealings, he will be longer mourned than many of the froward landlords, titled and untitled, of these Provinces.

THE General Committee have recommended Mr. Hughes, on increased pay and allowance of Rs. 500, as the new Engineer to the Calcutta Corporation. He will draw Rs 2,200 as pay and Rs. 100 as horse allowance.

REIS & RAYYET.

Saturday, December 21, 1895.

THE ADMINISTRATION OF SIR CHARLES ELLIOTT.

WE come to bury Cæsar, not to praise him. Our resolve is sincerer than Mark Antony's, for it is not possible for us to steal the hearts of the citizens by propounding Cæsar's secret will and announcing the throwing open of pleasure-grounds to the public or other legacies of any kind. Marcus Square, even if it were Cæsar's, is not a thing of beauty yet; fœtid with the smell of municipal sweepings lightly covered over with loose earth and rubbish, it is still unplanted. Nor will all sections of the public be able to recreate themselves on it as on a common ground. We have it not in our power to also notify the gift of even seventy-five depreciated Rupees to every citizen. We shall, therefore, speak right on, without exaggerating anything or glossing over any incident.

There can be no doubt that Sir Charles Elliott was a vigorous ruler. He is a man of strong individuality. Trained first in the North-West and subsequently reaping his laurels in a large Non-Regulation Province, when he came to Bengal, he found himself in altogether a different sphere. We omit, of course, his short experiences as a Member of the Supreme Council, which exerted little influence on the formation of his character. The fact can hardly be gainsaid that with his strong individuality of character he was as little suited to Bengal as Bengal with its well-trained district administrators and its superior organisation was little suited to him. The reign of law is scarcely adapted to the exhibition of vigorous individualism. Vigour of character in such a Province soon developes into vigour beyond the law. That, therefore, which was the strong point of Sir Charles Elliott's character operated as a positive disqualification for the rule of a Province like Bengal. He could see no fault in a Beatson Bell administering a few blows to a Zemindar's agent who had failed to keep ready a glass of milk or a few eggs for which it is ten to one the man would not have been paid. Mr. Phillips also of Mymensing fame, violating the law for humiliating a local Zemindar held in respect by a large tenantry and by the country besides, failed to strike Sir Charles Elliott as an exceptional official that required a tightening of the reins. A Rajput too, shooting at the doors and windows of a native subject of the crown for terrifying him into submission and subsequently arresting him with his own hands and dragging him for a long distance in order to make him over to the authorities for prosecution and punishment, seemed to the late ruler of Bengal as no way deserving of even a mild censure. The very vigour of Sir Charles Elliott led him to examine the judicial decision in the case of the Shambazar rioters and administer, in so far as it lay with him, a rebuke to the Judge for doing only his duty. His well-known words in another case, to the effect that "somebody should be punished" when he saw the prosecution fail against the men hauled up on suspicion, simply illustrated his impatience of the law and its sober procedure. A crime had been perpetrated. The Police, unable to spot the real criminals, had made indiscriminate arrests. Judge and jury let the accused off. The Lieutenant-Governor became dissatisfied. His dissatisfaction was not due to the fact of an undetected crime; but it was owing to somebody not having been punished by the Judges. A conviction, right or wrong it mattered little, was wanted. The very head of the Province betrayed an anxiety that characterises a Head Constable when he fails to send up anybody upon a crime happening.

The share which Sir Charles Elliott had in the Jury business cannot be held to have redounded to his honour. Failing to understand the very object for which the jury exists and is prized by the people, he looked upon it as a machinery for the repression of crime. Without at all acquainting himself with the opinions of men as well entitled to speak on the question as he, without, in fact, knowing that only a few years ago the Government of India had collected a large body of opinion advising extension of the jury trial, he surprised Bengal one fine morning by a notification in the *Gazette*, withdrawing many offences from the cognisance of the jury. This sort of government by surprises is suited to only a ruler of despotic tendencies. Government is a more serious business than the creation of surprises by the bursting of bomb shells and feats of legerdemain. Supposing Sir Charles Elliott was really moved by a few instances of failure on the part of native juries to convict, and that his scheme of readjusting the offences triable by juries arose out of his desire to see injustice checked at its source, what answer can his apologists give to his indifference to regulate the trials of British subjects who, it is notorious, are seldom convicted by juries composed of their own countrymen? The failures of native juries to convict are few and far between, while European juries fail systematically to do their duty. Sir Charles would have acted justly by endeavouring to mitigate this scandal instead of taking up, in pure ignorance of facts, the question of native juries and the offences triable by them. It is impossible to suppose that an observer so acute as the late Lieutenant-Governor had not marked the scandalous failures of justice in the trials of European offenders. His reluctance, however, to take up the question, must be ascribed to motives that would not bear examination. We have no wish, however, to slay the thrice-slain. The obnoxious notification was withdrawn amid shouts of derisive laughter from every quarter, and Sir Charles was, for once, taught the value of the lesson that

government is a serious business depending as much upon the opinions of others as on the opinions of its autocratic head for the time being.

The attitude of Sir Charles Elliott towards the press was extremely hostile. The Official Secrets Act had originally been passed in England. It had stood the test of Radical criticism. Its professed object is to guard information regarding fortifications and plans and particulars regarding the army and its movements from the knowledge of the enemy. To apply the provisions of that Act against a newspaper editor for anticipating in his columns the announcement of the transfer of an official or a new appointment, is the height of absurdity. Lord Lansdowne was scarcely justified in making the observations he did from his place in Council on the occasion of adopting the English Statute for India. Sir Charles Elliott, on more than one occasion, sought to put newspaper editors into trouble by threatening them with prosecutions under the Official Secrets Act for no more heinous offence than the announcement of a transfer or an appointment before the official notification in the *Gazette*. For sometime he constituted himself a Guardian-General of the decency and morals of the native press of Bengal. If an expression was detected that offended him for its strength, forthwith a communique was sure to be issued calling for an explanation. The rider was seldom omitted that unless the explanation was satisfactory, the name of the paper would be removed from the Belvedere list. Sir Charles was a religious man and his relations with the Christian Missionaries were intimate. His ears and nostrils were very delicate. He detected lurking obscenity in items of medical or scientific news which, after replies and rejoinders, were found, according to his own *fatwas* to be only "disgusting." Even here it was his vigorous individualism that operated frequently to hoist him on his own petards. He would rule not only men, but their very expressions of anger and sorrow as well.

Sir Charles' treatment of dismissed public servants showed little regard for justice. Under no other ruler have so many appeals from public servants removed by subordinate heads of departments and sections been thrown out. If a comparative statement be drawn up of the number of appeals thrown out by successive Lieutenant-Governors, Sir Charles Elliott will gain an unenviable distinction. In this respect, however, it is probably his Chief Secretary that was more to blame than he. Utterly destitute of any administrative genius, without any knowledge of the law, and thoroughly unable to grasp the details of any subject, his Chief Secretary was allowed to do an amount of mischief that is startling. "Declines to interfere" has been his stereotyped answer to appeals against sentences however unjust or unreasonable. Sir John Ware Edgar never disposed of an appeal without examining the papers thoroughly. Many were the cases in which he administered sharp rebukes to subordinate heads of departments and district officers for violating the law in the matter of depriving public servants of bread or of injuring private citizens in respect of their character. Sir John, again, never allowed inferior clerks of his office to decide grave issues of law. Sir Charles Elliott's Secretariat, however, had little compunctions of conscience in rejecting the most earnest appeals of innocent men forced to involuntary independence by subordinate tyranny.

Another noted instance of Sir Charles Elliott's vigour beyond the law would be furnished by his action in the matter of Abalakanta Sen's keys. About a hundred books, many of them exceedingly useful, judging by their sale, were suppressed by an executive order. Abalakanta had written some keys in elucidation of a few Bengali primers for little children. In explaining the morals of a few of the stories the writer had indulged in some foolish observations on the character of British rule. The first editions, in which those observations occurred, had long been out of print. Not a copy could be obtained in the market. In the later editions the objectionable passages had been expunged. For all that, full seven years after the date of publication, the Government of Sir Charles Elliott resolved to take action. The Crown lawyers were consulted. They refused to take the responsibility of advising a criminal prosecution. Accordingly, an executive ukase was issued directing that any student found with a copy of the objectionable publications would, after the first warning, be punished with academic death. The keys were intended for only little children. But Sir Charles was in no mood for distinguishing as to who can or who cannot be guilty of offences. He had no time to study the Penal Code. Not only was a new offence, *viz.*, key-carrying, created, but a punishment, the heaviest that can be inflicted on a student, was devised for those incapable of committing any offence under the law. The ostensible reason was the suppression of seditious literature. But the beauty of the situation was that there was no objectionable book in actual circulation that demanded suppression. Except half a dozen copies on the shelves of the Bengal Government Library not a copy could anywhere be found. The educational authorities used the order about only a couple of keys for suppressing *all* the publications of the poor author, including even mathematical and historical treatises and other perfectly inoffensive books. The latitude given to the Secretariat ukase was brought to the late Lieutenant-Governor's notice, but he made no sign to rectify the mistake.

In his St. Andrew's dinner speech, Sir Charles took great credit to himself for his economy. His economy, however, was so rigid that it has seriously interfered with efficiency. By reducing the salaries in the Secretariat, the way has been paved, we fear, for demoralisation. Men in responsible situations should be placed above temptation. This consideration never entered Sir Charles Elliott's head. Really, if he had a little less individualism and more respect for the opinions of others, he would have made a good provincial lieutenant.

LITERATURE OF BENGAL.

EVERY one interested in the literature of Bengal must hail with pleasure the appearance of a book which professes to give a connected history of that subject. The author is a Bengali and belongs to the Indian Civil Service. No better testimonial is required of superior culture or of qualifications for the task undertaken. The book is not unworthy of Mr. R. C. Dutt. The preliminary chapters show both thought and research. The treatment also has been systematic. The language is easy and chaste. Sentences, however, may be detected here and there that want completeness and that are rather colloquial. This perhaps is due to haste. A quotation occurs at p. 63, from Shakespeare, so well known that it should not have been marked off by inverted commas. The words, again, have been given wrongly. It is

not "puking and mewling in its mother's arms" but "mewling and puking in the nurse's arms." The transposition of mewling and puking, the substitution of 'its' for 'the' and of 'mother's' for 'nurse's' are not the trifles some take them to be. To misquote is an ugly and slovenly habit destructive of the very integrity of the literary character. These, however, are minor faults.

Mr. R. C. Dutt corrects the popular error about Bidyapati. The latter was a native of Behar and wrote or sung not in Bengali but in Hindi. The language of Bengali poetry has undergone little modification. Chandidas drew his inspiration from Bidyapati. Both belonged to the fourteenth century and were contemporaries. The difference between their language is very great. It is impossible to suppose that the language of Bidyapati is the Bengali of the fourteenth century. Mr. Dutt is certainly right in taking Chandidas as the true father of Bengali poetry.

While agreeing with much that Mr. Dutt has said on the history of the Bengali language and alphabet and endorsing, in the main, his estimates of particular authors, we cannot but say that as a history of Bengali literature, there are serious omissions in the book. The following sentences dispose of the great work of Ghanaram. "The eighteenth century produced many other poets in Bengal, and Ghanaram's voluminous work, written early in the century, has recently been published. But Ghanaram and other poets like him are little known to the reading public of Bengal. The songs of Ram Prosad and the poetry of Bharat Chandra are the greatest literary products of this century." This is just the kind of error that we expected in the book when we took it up. The great work of Ghanaram published only recently? It has, it is very true, been only printed very recently, and it is, therefore, little known to the reading public of Bengal. But published it had been, and very widely too, long before it was set up in type. As sung by professional singers, no work is more widely known than *Dharma-mangala*. Mukundaram's work is not recited more largely than Ghanaram's. The men, women, and children of every village in the interior know the story of *Dharma-mangala* by heart. It is only in the towns and cities and sub divisional head-quarters, where the people have lost much of their national traits of character and amusements as well, that Ghanaram is a comparative stranger. It has not been the lot of Ghanaram alone to be forgotten by "the cultivated" classes of his countrymen. Mukundaram has been equally forgotten by them. The enterprise of the Bartollah book-sellers has kept Mukundaram alive for the reading classes. Professional reciters, however, have kept him alive for the ears of the people. Ghanaram, too, has been always known to the people, though he never received till lately the honour of print. The reading classes in towns and cities may have been unfamiliar with him. But Ghanaram and his great work are more widely known than Bharat Chandra, the court poet of Raja Krishna Chandra. It is only in the metropolitan districts of Bengal that *Annada-mangala* is read and admired. Notwithstanding the fact of its age, it has not been taken up by any class of professional singers. Bharat intended his work to be sung, for that was the only method of publication known in his days. The repetition of the word *pala* at the end of his chapters, and the very naming of his work after the manner of his great predecessors, show this incontestably. Bharata's hopes were not fulfilled. The professional reciters turned their back upon him. It was by the purest accident that a body of Calcutta amateurs adopted a portion of his story for a *yatra* that soon became popular, in the metropolitan districts, in the hands of one of their servants, *viz.*, Gopal, the Uriyah, to whom, after one or two performances, they left their "properties." To suppose for one moment that the publication of Bharat Chandra's work has even equalled that of Ghanaram's, would betray a lamentable unacquaintance with the only national method of publication of poetical works. Mr. R. C. Dutt is a metropolitan Bengali, with a high English education, perfected in England. It is no disparagement to him to say that, brought up in English ideas, he has failed to catch the true test by which the publication of a Bengali poem is to be judged. He has, we believe, never heard a recitation, before a temple of Dharma, of Ghanaram's great work, or even of Mukundaram's *Chandi* on a village lawn or in the house of a substantial peasant. Hence it is that a few lines have been devoted by him to Ghanaram, while a whole chapter has been given to Bharat Chandra. A cursory perusal, however, of Ghanaram will show that Bharat derived his inspiration, as regards many portions of his poem, from his great predecessor. It may be seen, again that, like Dryden disfiguring Shakespeare in his attempts to improve him, Bharat, in his attempts to retouch some of the pictures originally drawn by Ghanaram, has marred them materially. Bharat sang for the Court of a magnate. Ghanaram for the people. Many of the descriptions of Ghanaram that Bharat boldly borrowed, in passing through the crucible of the latter's mind, became tainted with the latter's besetting sin of licentiousness. The accepted estimate of Bharat's genius required to be recast after the printing of Ghanaram. The neglect to do it seriously detracts from the value of Mr. Dutt's book.

There is another omission in the volume that is more inexcusable. Rangalal Banerjee and his *Padminir Upakhyana* have been disposed of in three sentences. Among all those young men who sat at the feet of Iswar Gupta for learning the art of versification and cultivating the Bengali language, no one distinguished himself more than Rangalal Banerjee. The appearance of *Padminir Upakhyana* marked an era in the history of Bengali poetry. It represented the best specimen of work turned out by the Gupta School. There are passages in that poem which still stand unrivalled for fire and pathos in the whole range of Bengali poetry. The ode to Liberty, and the description of the field of battle with some touches borrowed from Byron's Destruction of Sennacherib have not been surpassed by anything in Michael Dutt or Hem Chandra. A history of Bengali literature omitting a detailed reference to Rangalal and his *Padmini* is very like a history of English literature without a detailed reference to Moore or Campbell, or, better still, Scott, if the author believes that Rangalal's fame dwindled before that of Michael Dutt even as Scott's before Byron's. There is not a line in the poem that is dull; while as regards melody of versification, Rangalal stands immeasurably superior to Dinabandhu and Michael, about each of whom he author is so eloquent.

Not a line, again, occurs in the book touching the distinguished *Kabiwalas* whose contributions to the

cause of Bengali poetry rank as high as those of any poet whom the author has mentioned. The songs of Ram Bose and others among his competitors, if collected from old men who still recite or sing them with rapturous delight, would constitute a precious volume of the best poetry in the Bengali language Unfortunately, the authors of those songs did not avail themselves of the help of the printing press, and hence Mr. R. C Dutt thinks that their productions were never published.

The contributions of Nobin Chunder Sen to Bengali poetry have been valued above those of Hem Chandra Banerjee We are not surprised at this. Puff has done its work so effectually with regard to Babu Sen that we cannot blame Mr. R. C. Dutt for endorsing the judgment of the rabble. Hem Chandra is too thoughtful a poet to be appreciated by the uncultured horde of Bengali readers. The difference is very great between Hem Chandra and Nobin. The Brahman writes sense, the Vaidya writes non-sense. Nobin Chandra, we are told, is a veritable Byron. Others say that he is the poet of the Hindu revival. As both the verdicts are equally correct, we have in Sen a very strange Byron,—a Byron, that is, full of religious fervour and prepared to worship all the saints of the Hindu calendar. Bengal has produced many strange things, but never anything stranger.

The last chapter of the book, entitled "General Intellectual Progress" is a curious farago of prejudices and erudities. It betrays all the faults of a narrow spirit of party. While we are told that Soshi Chandra Dutt's English works come up to twelve goodly volumes, while a host of men have been mentioned, the briefest reference does not occur to the greatest Bengali of the age, *viz.*, Dr. Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee. It is impossible to suppose that the writer is unacquainted with the fact of the very large share which Dr. Mookerjee had in building up the fame of the weekly *Hindoo Patriot*. Hurish Chunder was succeeded by Sambhu Chunder, and after Sambhu Chunder came Kristodas Pal. We were not prepared to see the historian of intellectual movement in Bengal lend his aid to the intrigue that sought and still seeks to keep Dr. Mookerjee's name in the background. In an account of journalism in particular, such omission is even culpable. There is little hope for Bengal when a Bengali of even admitted culture like Mr. R. C. Dutt discovers such reluctance to honour one who towered far above his contemporaries and whom the greatest of Englishmen in India and literary men of other countries loved to honour. By the side of this, the mention of Chandi Charan Banerjee as the biographer of Vidyasagar, without naming the author of that delightful volume from which Chandi Charan has derived nearly all his materials, is a small affair.

NOTICE OF BOOKS.

[*Sámudrik Cikshá*, or the method of ascertaining the present, past, and future of men and women from an examination of the lines and marks on the palm, by Raman Krishna Chatterjee. Published by the author : 19 Mathur Sen's Garden Lane, Calcutta. 1301.]

This is a work on Palmistry. Whether palmistry be a real or false science, like astrology, phrenology, and many others, is difficult to determine. Men like Kant, about whose intelligence there can be no question, believed in astrology. There was nothing unsound in the understanding of the author of phrenology. Men of even vigorous intellects have been known to be believers in astrology as in phrenology. Palmistry too numbers many votaries. India, perhaps, is the home of palmistry as of astrology. There are many works extant in Sanskrit on palmistry. True or false, nobody can question that, like faces, the palms of different men present different marks. If a science can be sought to be constructed from the lines in caligraphy, if a thumb print be a true index to the man, it is the next step to study the lines and marks on the palm to learn not only the character but also the antecedents and the fortune of the man. Without vouching, therefore, for the truth of palmistry or endeavouring to demonstrate it as a superstition worthy only of weak understandings, we may observe that the book before us contains a mass of curious information or, rather, generalisations based upon the formation of the fingers and the lines and marks on the palm. We believe the present work is the first regular contribution, in Bengali, to the study of palmistry. Those desirous of verifying the generalisations may easily do so by examining not only their own palms but also those of friends and relatives. Several diagrams are given with full explanations of the marks on them. The subject has been treated in a systematic way. There are altogether 12 chapters. The entire matter is cast in the form of questions and answers. The style is easy. Still one cannot hope to become a master of palmistry without close study and repeated experiments. It is necessary to bear in mind a large number of explanations or axiomatic statements. One must study the literature of palmistry thoroughly before one can hope to apply its rules for study of character.

THE CIVIL SERVICE DINNER TO SIR CHARLES ELLIOTT.

HIS REPLY TO THE TOAST OF THE EVENING.

I never realised till to-night how inadequate language is to express what I feel as regards the manner in which my colleagues of the Civil Service have assembled to bid me farewell and have received the flattering and eloquent remarks of my friend and former Secretary, Mr. Nolan. Mr. Chamberlain remarked in a recent speech that young men liked praise in thimblefuls, middle-aged men in tea spoonfuls, and old men in ladlefuls.

My experience is, however, quite the reverse, for as a young man I am sure I could have swallowed any amount of praise without thinking it exceeded my deserts ; while now, at my present time of life, when I look back on the past, the recollections that arise are chiefly those of opportunities missed, of high ideals not attained, of attempts that have proved too hard for my hands to carry out, and of the constant presence of a feeling that if there were more than 24 hours in the day, the work would have been much better done. Such recollections cannot fail to be saddening, but to this melancholy feeling of retrospection you have applied the best, if not the only, remedy. For there is no judgment so severe and sound as that of the service to which one belongs, all the members of which know the details of one's career, before whom the whole of one's life lies open, and for whom the course of work is the same, the difficulties are similar, and they can thus best appreciate work done with complete "connaissance de cause." And therefore it is with mixed feelings of pride and humility that I look on this gathering of brother Civilians, betokening as it does the expression of their hearty good-will, as the highest praise I can desire, and the highest reward I can obtain. Mr. Nolan in his speech has alluded to the fact that I came five years ago as a stranger to this province, and has commented on the disadvantage under which I thus laboured. I have no doubt in my own mind that as an ordinary rule it is best for a province to have as its Lieutenant-Governor a man who is versed in its laws, customs and language, who has grown up among its people and knows from his youth the personnel of its governing body. Against my ignorance of these important matters I have only one advantage to adduce. In one Department of work, which has become of extreme importance and has largely developed in my time, the work of settlement, my experience as a settlement officer has been of great value. In other respects I have felt the disadvantage of my position to be a serious one. As regards knowledge of the personnel of the service I have been greatly helped by the devotion and ability of my two Chief Secretaries ; and as regards the details of district work I have endeavoured to cure it by frequent tours of inspection and by systematic and careful attention to details ; and I hope sincerely that I have attained the ends aimed at, for the process has been a most laborious one. But it has had its advantages too, for it has brought me into the closest contact

with the officers of Government, of all ranks, in every district, and has enabled me to gain a knowledge of their life, of their difficulties, and how they have overcome them. It is this necessity of dealing with a greater mass of details which is the chief characteristic of a Civilian's duties, but it is not only in this country nor in this age of the world that the importance of administrative capacity has been felt. Long ago I took for my motto a sentence, in which his views of the chief duties of Government were expressed, by Marcus Aurelius,---the Emperor-philosopher,---who ruled over a wider area than Bengal, but probably not over a larger population. He wrote. "There will never be a Republic of Plato" (or as we would say, thinking rather of Sir Thomas More than of Plato, "there will never be an Utopia.") "Let it suffice then to have improved things a little, and if succesful in that do not count it a small thing." This is the aim that I set before myself,---to improve things a little; and I trust that those who know me best will allow that I have made a constant and assiduous attempt, by paying attention to the details of administration, to remove friction, to oil the wheels of Government, and so order things that nothing should be done aimlessly, nor done twice over unnecessarily. In this connection I would mention one recent improvement, which though small in itself, is, I believe, a valuable and fruitful change; I mean the publication of the Annual Commissioner's Report "in extenso," instead of being boiled down and abstracted in a Government Resolution. These reports are, I think, of great use both to the service and to the public, as showing the thoughts which are brooding in the minds of the senior officers of Government and the lines on which they would carry out administrative improvements. I have made the following list of a few of the principal items touched on in their reports for last year.

The conduct and shortcomings of the Police---the tendency to excessive severity in their punishments, the growth of unfounded charges against them.

The territorial distribution of criminal cases.

The defects in the administration of Criminal Justice, the danger of holding up an impossibly high standard of evidence---(loud and prolonged cheers)---the worship of the Fetish of the "First information at the Thana" (cheers)---the duty of the Magistrate to discover the truth of a case, not merely to weigh the preponderence of evidence. (Loud cheers).

The "Tauzi," procedure for the collection of Revenue.

The Registration of mutations in Government estates.

The objects and value of Sub-divisional Officer's tours.

The unsound character of the Provident Societies growing up in some districts.

The mismanagements of pounds and ferries by District Boards.

The improvement of waterways and tow-paths, development of roadside wells and of water-supply.

The liability of certain parts of the country to distress of famine.

The principles of land acquisition compensation.

The management of Ward's Estates.

The effects on Excise Revenue of the local condition of the people.

Defects in the certificate procedure and "knock-out" sales of land.

Relief by emigration to the congested population.

Forest protection and forestation.

And lastly I may mention the important question of the effect of the fall in the price of silver on the prices of food. (Laughter.)

All these are matters as to which there is room for Administrative Improvement, or ground for serious thought. They are types of the questions which occupy the thoughts of the senior men, and their reports show the line they would take if they had full powers, and occupied the highest posts, for which I am assured they would be found to be fully competent, if only there were enough high posts for them to fill! I trust that the juniors in the service will bear these suggestions in mind, and remember that now it is their time to consider the directions that reforms should take, and to frame the policy they would wish to carry out if they rise to power; for just as every soldier carries the possibility of a field-marshal's baton in his knapsack, so every Civilian should look on himself as a potential Lieutenant-Governor. The other day one of my friends among the juniors said to me in reference to this occasion, "Give us a watchword." I am hardly justified in giving a watchword, but I feel that it is not out of place for me to give advice. I am not speaking to-day as a Lieutenant-Governor to officers under his orders, but as a senior member of a service which he deeply loves to the junior members of the same service, and perhaps after my long course of years in India I may claim to speak as one of whom it may be said that in him

Old experience doth attain,
To something of prophetic strain.

The advice then that I would give you as that which is most peculiarly needed in the present time and under the present conditions is "Cultivate unlimited patience;" for the great danger that now confronts men of our race in India, and especially the younger among us, is that we are often tempted to give way to irritability of temper. I would venture again to quote from Marcus Aurelius a sentence of profound wisdom. It is the first sentence in the 2nd chapter of his thoughts. "Begin the day by saying to thyself, 'I shall meet with the busy body, the arrogant, the deceitful, the envious, the unsocial.' All these things happen to them by this ignorance of what is good or evil. But I who have seen the nature of the good that it is beautiful, and the bad that it is ugly, can neither be injured by any of them, nor can I be angry with my kinsman nor hate him." This spirit of philosophic calm and unlimited patience is the spirit which the juniors want when they have to face the annoyances in official life, attacks in the papers, and unreasonable opposition. I would ask you to remember in such cases the inferior education and lower position of such critics, and to look on the hostile spirit in which they act or write as their misfortune due to their ignorance, a failing to be forgiven rather than resented. Even the most bitter newspapers have from time to time criticisms which point out mistakes, and this may lead to improvements, and many of them combine sound views with candour and reasonableness. If, however, you find that to read any of these causes excessive irritation your best course is to leave them unread. Cultivate the grand disdain shown in the advice which Virgil gave to Dante in the famous wards "Non ragioniam di lor ma guarda e passa."

Another point which Mr. Nolan touched on involves a principle which I hold to be most important, and which has underlain all my public actions,---"the principle of not washing dirty linen in public." I well remember in old days when we were juniors and serving together in a district in the Central Provinces how Sir Alfred Lyall and I discussed together, as I trust junior Civilians discuss now, the lines on which the State should be governed; and one point on which we were both perfectly agreed was that, if we ever rose to high positions, there was one frequent mistake we at least would never be guilty of,---I mean the grave fault of publishing censure of the officers of Government. Such a procedure not only lowers the authority of the individual officers but destroys the prestige of the service. There is no place in the world to my knowledge where the Government has publicly slated its officers, as I have seen it done in India. In England the Home Secretary, when he corrects a mistake or modifies a sentence, does not publish the remarks which convey his censure. These are matters to be done---if done at all---in private. If the French Government disapproves of and removes a prefet, the sentence must become known, but no Government Resolution is blazoned abroad in the papers. Censure no doubt is necessary at times, but it should be private and confidential. Above all things beware of giving over our officers to the wolves! (Loud cheers). And in India we have a special reason for this policy, because such censure is rarely, if ever, needed. I do not speak, gentlemen, with a desire to flatter and please so friendly an audience. But the efficiency of the service is so great, and the zeal so conspicuous, every Magistrate and Judge is so trying his level best to do his day's work conscientiously under special difficulties of climate and want of companionship in solitary places, that it is quite unnecessary, if a mistake occurs, to apply the stimulous of the official lash. In all the cases that I know of, where mistakes have been made, the severest and most adequate punishment has been the conscience of the officer. Great as the efficiency of the service is, there is still room for improvement and advance, and I trust that all sections of it will continue to aim at the highest standard attainable. I speak especially to the juniors, who should look to their seniors for encouragement, advice and example. They should remember that the future lies in their hands, and that when changes take place as take place they must---to meet the development of the country and to read just the relations of Government with the aspirations of the people, it will be their duty to so give effect to them that there may be no disturbance, and the interest of people and Government may be safeguarded and advanced.

I have now only got to add my heartiest thanks for the cordial way in which Lady Elliott's name and the laudatory remarks of Mr. Nolan about her have been received. It is quite unnecessary for me to lay stress on what a helpmeet she has been to me in my position in every branch, and on how I should have failed in one important point of my duties---the social side---without her. I can only say that the language used, and the knowledge that it is echoed by friends throughout the province will be the best tonic to effectually restore her to health again.

In conclusion, I have to ask you all to drink the health of my old friend and successor, Sir A. Mackenzie. I have known him for many years and have followed his long and distinguished career with the certainty that he would in time arrive at the post he is now about to take up. It seems only a short time ago that Sir Steuart Bayley vacated Belvedere for me, and now again I am vacating it for Sir A. Mackenzie. The objects which have been so familiar to me are packed and cleared away, and the house is being prepared for his occupation. The words of Omar Khyamm come back to me---

'Tis but a tent where takes his one day's rest
A Sultan to the realm of Death addrest;

The Sultan rises and the dark Farash
Strikes and prepares it for another guest.

The "other guest" does not labour under the same disadvantage as I did. As an old member of the Bengal Service he is acquainted with the service, with its traditions, and, to some extent, with its personnel. With his great abilities and after his brilliant career the one thing needed to secure his success in Bengal is your loyal and efficient co-operation after the manner in which you have given it to me. I can promise it on your behalf to him. (Loud cheers.)

Gentlemen, I call on you to drink the health of Sir A. Mackenzie.

SIR ALEXANDER MACKENZIE'S REPLY.

Sir Alexander Mackenzie, who was received with loud applause, said :---I have to thank Sir Charles Elliott for the terms in which he has been good enough to propose my health, and you, gentlemen, for the cordial manner in which you have received the toast. I feel none the less that my presence here to-night calls really for apology, and that the intrusion of my extraneous personality between the Service and their guest of the evening would have been indeed unpardonable had it not been condoned by Sir Charles Elliott's expressed wish, and the consequent and courteous invitation of your Committee.

I am, I need hardly say, delighted to have an opportunity given me of meeting thus early so many members of the Service to which I am proud to belong, and with whom I look forward to pleasant and profitable association during the coming years, the more so as I have been so long absent from Bengal that a new official generation has meanwhile arisen that "knows not Joseph" and has yet to learn what to make of him.

On returning once more to my province of origin I should like to be allowed at the outset to say this one thing---that while I have been long enough absent to shed perhaps some of my Bengal prejudices, I have not as yet either abjured Bengal principles or forgotten my Bengal friendships. (Cheers.)

Gentlemen, I appreciate to the full the difficulties of my position in succeeding an Administrator of such strong individuality, such bold initiative, and such consummate grasp of detail as Sir Charles Elliott ; but the situation is not altogether without precedent. My old master, Sir Ashley Eden, restored the Bengal succession after a dynasty of able upcountry Governors who had introduced, as Sir Charles Elliott has introduced, many important changes into the Bengal system. But Ashley Eden found---(and I was perhaps the man who then knew most of his mind and methods)---Ashley Eden found, I say, that he was able nevertheless to maintain a reasonable continuity of policy and administration, and under him Bengal absorbed and assimilated as reforms what it had been at first disposed to resent as innovations. I am not without hope that history will now again repeat itself. It will not indeed be my fault if it fails to do so. (Cheers.)

And I am encouraged in taking up the burden laid upon me---appalling as at times it seems in prospect---by the knowledge that I shall have within reach many friendly advisers, European and Native, official and non-official,---with whom I am in cordial sympathy, and upon whose knowledge of the province up to date I may freely draw.

Already here I find myself surrounded by not a few familiar faces. In the chair is one of my oldest friends in India, and I rejoice to believe that with him and with the other members of the High Court, my relations are likely to be in the future, as they always were in the past, not merely amicable but intimate. I do not recognise, I never will recognise, in this old and highly organised province, any possibility of friction, jealousy, or antagonism between the Judicial and executive branches of the Administration. Their respective functions ought to be, and I believe can be, so co-ordinated as to secure the smooth and efficient action of both. We are one service, working under one Government, seeking not our own individual or sectional advantage and glory, but the common weal of the vast population committed to our charge. I look to you, my brother Civilians, to aid me in realising and maintaining this, the traditional ideal of our service---and to that end God help us all. (Cheers.)

Passing on from the High Court I find in the Revenue Board two other old friends, unrivalled for their knowledge of the province in all its parts, whom I shall hope to associate very closely with myself in the administration of that great congeries of departments.

Most of the Commissioners are old acquaintances, from the genial and judicious Forbes at Patna, to the quaintly caustic "Luckman" at Dacca---while in the middle kingdom I find an old school and college mate in Grimley at Ranchi, and a quondam famine assistant in Toynbee at Bhagalpur. The same is true of many of the senior Judges and in an especial degree of the three Civil Secretaries whose services, abilities, and experience I am fortunate in retaining.

Of the younger men the acquaintance is yet to make, but I trust we shall part eventually with as much mutual esteem and friendly regard as has brought us all together to-night to do honour to Sir Charles Elliott. Meantime I will only assure them of this, that it has been my steadfast aim during the nine years I have held charge of provincial Governments to give to every subordinate full and public credit for all good work done. I find this the best way to get work done. The newspapers have at times described me as a hard and exacting task-master. But gentlemen, you will not judge me from newspapers or any other report. Judge me as you find me, and remember, too, that hitherto I have had to deal with somewhat backward provinces : manned to a large and even embarrassing extent by untrained men or by effete survivals of an exploded non-regulation system ; and though I had the assistance both in the Central Provinces and Burma of many officers as able and devoted as are to be found in any part of India, the "tails of the teams" took at times a lot of driving. In Bengal, with its admirably trained service and its sound traditions, I look forward to no more arduous task than that of devising, if possible, new epithets and phrases of commendation and approval.

Gentlemen, I have no policy to announce to you save that embodied in my native Doric in the words "Ca'Canny." I trust that we shall together do some useful work, and the less dust we raise in the doing of it the better I think it will be for the country and for ourselves. (Loud and prolonged cheering.)

THE DOG, THE MAN, AND THE MEAT.

A FRIEND of mine and I were walking together the other day ; a dog dashed past us after something he saw on the pavement. It was a big piece of meat. He pounced on it and swallowed it in two seconds. My companion looked at the dog with envious admiration. "My humble friend," he said, "I'll give you £5,000 for your appetite and your digestion. *you* are not afraid to eat ; I am." But the dog knew what happiness is made of. He declined the offer and trotted away.

It is astonishing how many different people use this expression. "I am" or "I was" afraid to eat. As the writer pens these lines five letters lie on the table before him, every one of them containing it. Yet the persons who wrote the letters are not known to one another. There was, therefore, no agreement among them. Why should there be, even if they *were* acquainted ?

No, there is nothing in it to wonder at. They went through the same experience, and express it in the most natural way, that's all.

But what does it mean ? Are people suspicious of poisoned food ? No, no ; that is not so. The food is not poisoned before it is eaten, but afterwards. An example will show what really occurs, and why so many are afraid to eat.

We quote from one of the letters : "One night, early in 1892," says the writer, "I was seized with dreadful pains in the pit of the stomach, and a choking sensation in the throat. I feared I was going to die. My wife called in a neighbour. They applied hot flannels and turpentine, but I got no relief. Then a doctor came and gave me medicine. He said he never saw anyone's tongue in such a condition. It was, a yellow colour, and covered with a slimy phlegm, so thick I could have scraped it with a knife. I had a foul, bitter taste in the mouth, and my eyes were so dull I could scarcely see. I had a heavy pain in the side, and felt so dejected and miserable I didn't know what to do with myself. What little food I took gave me so much pain *I was afraid to eat*. The doctor put me on starvation diet, and injected morphine to ease the pain.

"Getting no real benefit from the first doctor I saw another, who said I had enlargement of the liver. He gave me medicines, but I got no better In August I went to Exmouth to see what my native air would do for me, but came back worse than ever. I had lost over three stone in weight, and being too weak to move about I used to lie on the couch most of the time I never expected to get well, and didn't care much what became of me.

"One day in October my wife said, '*It appears the doctors can do nothing for you, so I am going to doctor you myself.*' She went to the Southern Drug Stores, in Camberwell Road, and got a bottle of Mother Seigel's Curative Syrup. After taking this medicine for a few days the pain in my stomach left me, my appetite improved, and I gained some strength. Soon afterwards I was back at my work The people in the office, seeing how well I looked, asked what had cured me, and I answered Mother Seigel's Syrup. I shall be glad to reply to any inquiries about my case." (Signed) Charles Harris, 74, Beresford Street Camberwell, London, December 1st, 1892."

Mr. Harris' statement goes straight to the point. Why was he afraid to eat ? Because his food gave him pain without giving him strength. This was dead wrong. It was exactly the reverse of what it should have been. When a man is the proper form he gets vigour and power from his meals, and eats them with enjoyment and relish. If he doesn't there is something the matter with him. What is it ?

Now let your thoughts expand a bit, so as to take in a broad principle. One man's meat is another man's poison, they say. That's true but it's only half the truth. *Any man's meat is any man's poison*, under certain conditions. If grain never got any further than the mill hopper we should never have bread, and if bread (or other food) never got further than the stomach we should never have strength. See ? When the stomach is torpid, inflamed, and "ON STRIKE," what happens ? Why, your food lies in it and rots. The fermentations produce poisons which get into the blood and kicks up the worst sort of mischief all over the body. This is indigestion and dyspepsia, though the doctors call each and every trick of it by a separate name. Yet they don't cure it which is the main thing after all.

But Mother Seigel's Curative Syrup does, as Mr. Harris says, as thousand of other say.

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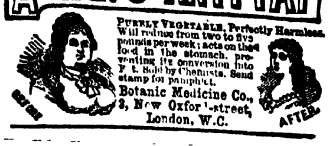

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to, from Ardagh, Col. Sir J.C.
to Atkinson, the late Mr. E F T., C S.,
to Banerjee, Babu Jyotish Chunder
from Banerjee, the late Revd. Dr. K. M.
to Banerjee, Babu Surodaprasad.
from Bell, the late Major Evans.
from Bhaddun, Chief of
to Binay Krishna, Raja.
to Circle, Rai Bahadur Ananda.
to Chatterjee, Mr. K M.
from Clarke, Mr. S E J.
from, to Colvin, Sir Auckland.
to, from Dufferin and Ava, the Marquis of.
from Evans, the Hon'ble Sir Griffith H.P.
to Ganguli, Babu Kisari Mohan.
to Ghose, Babu Nabo Kissen.
to Ghosh, Babu Kali Prosanna.
to Graham, Mr. W.
from Griffin, Sir Lepel.
from Guha, Babu Sarada Kant.
to Hall, Dr. Fitz Edward.
from Hume, Mr Allan O
from Hunter, Sir W W.
to Jenkins, Mr Edward.
to Jung, the Late Nawab Sir Salar.
to Knight, Mr. Paul.
from Knight, the Late Mr Robert.
from Lansdowne, the Marquis of.
to Law, Komul Krishna.
to Lyon, Mr. Percy C
to Mahomed Moulvi Syed.
to Mallik, Mr H. C.
to Marston, Miss Ann.
from Mayo, L R D.
to Mitra, the late Raja Dr. Rajendralala.
to Mitter, Late Raja Dakhinaranjan
from Mookerjee, Mr. J C
from Morse, Professor H (San Francisco).
to, from Mursidabad, the Nawab Bahadur of.
from Nilmani, Mahamahapadhya M C
from Oman, the Late Colonel Robert D
to Rao, Mr G Venkata Appa.
to Rao, the Late Sir T. Madhava
to Reagan, Sir William H.
from Rosebery, Earl of.
to, from Routledge, Mr. James.
from Russell, Sir W H.
to Roy, Mr G Sreenatha.
to Sastri, the Hon'ble A. Sashiah.
to Sircar, Babu Brahmananda.
from Sircar, Dr. Mahendralal.
from Strachey, Lord, of Alderley.
from, to Townsend, Mr Meredith
to Underwood, Captain T O
to, from Vambéry, Professor Arminius.
to Venkataramanaih, Mr G.
to Vizianagram, Maharaja of
to, from Wallace, Sir Donald Mackenzie.
to Wood-Mason, the late Professor J.

LETTERS (& TELEGRAMS) OF CONDOLENCE, from
Abdus Subhan, Moulvi A K. M.
Ameer Hossein, Hon'ble Nawab Syed.
Ardagh, Colonel Sir J C.
Banerjee, Babu Manmathanath
Banerjee, Rai Bahadur, Shib Chunder.
Barth, M. A
Batchelors, Mr. R.
Deb, Babu Manahar.
Dutt, Mr. O. C.
Dutt, Babu Prosaddoss.
Egan, Lord.
Ghose, Babu Norend K.
Ghosh, Babu Kali Prasanna.
Graham, Mr William.
Hall, Dr. Fitz Edward.
Hanuman Vibharan Desai, the late Dewan.
Iyer, Mr. A. Krishnaswami.
Lambert, Sir John.
Mahomed, Moulvi Syed.
Mitra, Mr. B C.
Mitter, Babu Sidheshur.
Mookerjee, Rajah Peary Mohan.
Mookerjee, Babu Surendra Nath.
Murshidabad, the Nawab Bahadoor of.
Routledge, Mr. James.
Roy, Babu E. C.
Roy, Babu Sarat Chunder.
Sanyal, Babu Dinabundho.
Sastri Library.
Tippera, the Rara Thakur of.
Vambéry, Professor Arminius.
Vizianagram, the Maharaja of.

POSTSCRIPT.

After paying the expenses of the publication the surplus will be placed wholly at the disposal of the family of the deceased man of letters.

Orders to be made to the Business Manager, "An Indian Journalist," at the Bee Press, 1, Uckoor Dutt's Lane, Wellington Street, Calcutta.

OPINION ON THE BOOK.

It is a most interesting record of the life of a remarkable man.—Mr H. Babington Smith, Private Secretary to the Viceroy, 5th October, 1895

Dr Mookerjee was a famous letter-writer, and there is a breezy freshness and originality about his correspondence which make it very interesting reading.—Sir Alfred W Croft, K C I E., Director of Public Instruction, Bengal. 26th September, 1895.

It is not that amid the pressure of harassing official duties an English Civilian can find either time or opportunity to pay so graceful a tribute to the memory of a native personality as F. H. Skrine has done in his biography of the late Dr. Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee, the well-known Bengal journalist (Calcutta: Thacker, Spink and Co); nor are there many who are more worthy of being thus honoured than the late Editor of *Reis and Rayyet*.

We may at any rate cordially agree with Mr. Skrine that the story of Mookerjee's life, with all its lights and shadows, is pregnant with lessons for those who desire to know the real India.

No weekly paper, Mr. Skrine tells us, not even the *Hindoo Patriot*, in its palmiest days under Kristodas Pal, enjoyed a degree of influence in any way approaching that which was soon attained by *Reis and Rayyet*.

A man of large heart and great qualities, his death from pneumonia in the early spring in the last year was a distinct and heavy loss to Indian journalism, and it was an admirable idea on Mr. Skrine's part to put his Life and Letters upon record.—The *Times of India*, (Bombay) September 30, 1895

It is rarely that the life of an Indian journalist becomes worthy of publication; it is more rarely still that such a life comes to be written by an Anglo-Indian and a member of the Indian Civil Service. But it has come to pass that in the Lord of the Bengali Babus, the life of at least one man among Indian journalists has been considered worthy of being written by an Englishman.—The *Madras Standard*, (Madras) September 30, 1895

The late Editor of *Reis and Rayyet* was a profound student and an accomplished writer, who has left his mark on Indian journalism. In that he has found a Civilian like Mr Skrine to record the story of his life he is more fortunate than the great Kristodas Pal himself.—The *Tribune*, (Lahore) October 2, 1895.

For much of the biographical matter that issues so freely from the press an apology is needed. Had a biography of Dr. Mookerjee, the Editor of *Reis and Rayyet*, appeared, in explanation would have been looked for. A man of his remarkable personality, who was easily first among native Indian journalists, and in many respects occupied a higher plane than they did, and looked at public affairs from a different point of view from theirs, could not be suffered to sink into oblivion without some

[illegible] his memory by the usual [illegible]. The difficulties common [illegible] have in this case been in- [illegible] circumstances, not the least [illegible] rather belongs to a differ- [illegible] subject. It is true that [illegible] there were many admirers [illegible] Doctor, and that he on his side [illegible] English character as few [illegible] understand it. But in spite of this [illegible] remarkable assimilation of English modes of thought and expression, Dr. Mookerjee remained to the last a Brahman of the Brahmans [illegible] conservation of the best of his inheritance that wins nothing but respect and approval. In consequence of this, his ideal biographer would have been one of his own disciples, with the same inherited sympathies, and trained like him in Western learning. If Bengal had produced such another man as Dr. Mookerjee, it was he who should have written his life.

The biography is warmly appreciative without being needlessly laudatory; it gives [illegible] complete picture of the man; and in the book there is not a dull page.

A few of the letters addressed to Dr. Mookerjee [illegible] such minor importance that they might have been omitted with advantage, but [illegible] of his own letters could have been [illegible]. To say that he writes idiomatic English is to say what is short of the truth. His [illegible] is easy and correct, clear and straightforward, without Oriental luxuriance or striving [illegible] effect. Perhaps he is never so charming [illegible] when he is laying down the laws of literary [illegible] to young aspirants to fame. The letter [illegible] page 286, for instance, is a delightful piece [illegible] criticism [illegible] delicate plain-speaking, and [illegible] the difficult feat of [illegible] that his productions [illegible] the smallest degree pretty, without [illegible] either offending [illegible] his ardour.

[illegible]

[illegible] *Pioneer*, (Allahabad) Oct. 5, 1895.

[illegible]

[illegible] to appreciate merit unmarred by [illegible] and earnestness unspoiled by [illegible].—The *Muhammadan*, (Madras) Oct. [illegible] 1895.

The work leaves nothing to be desired either in the way of completeness, impartiality, or lifelike portrayal of character.

Mr. Skrine deals with his interesting subject with the unfailing instinct of the biographer. Every side of Dr. Mookerjee's complex character is treated with sympathy tempered by discrimination.

Mr. Skrine's narrative certainly impresses one with the individuality of a remarkable man.

Mookerjee's own letters show that he had not only acquired a command of clear and flexible English but that he had also assimilated that sturdy independence of thought and character which is supposed to be a peculiar possession of natives of Great Britain. His reading and the stores of his general information appear to have been, considering his opportunities, little less than marvellous.

One of the first to express his condolence with the family of the deceased writer was the present Viceroy, Lord Elgin. Mookerjee appears to have won the affection not only of the dignitaries with whom he came in contact, but also of those in low estate.

The impression left upon the mind upon laying down the book is that of a good and able man whose career has been graphically portrayed.—The *Englishman*, (Calcutta) October 15, 1895.

The career of an eminent Bengali editor, who died in 1894, throws a curious light upon the race elements and hereditary influences which affect the criticisms of Indian journalists on British rule.

The "Life and Letters of Dr. S. C. Mookerjee," a book just edited by a distinguished civilian in Calcutta, takes us behind the scenes of Indian journalism.

It is a narrative, written with insight and a complete mastery of the facts, of how a clever youth gradually grew into one of the ablest leader-writers in Bengal, and still more gradually matured into one of the fairest-minded editors that western education in India has yet produced. If the training and experience which develop the journalist in England are sometimes varied, they seem in India to have an even wider range.

But the object of this notice is to show how a great Bengali journalist is made; space forbids us to enter upon his actual performances. They will be found set forth at sufficient length, and with much felicity of expression, in Mr. Skrine's admirable monograph. It is characteristic of the noble service to which Mr. Skrine belongs, that such a book should have issued from its ranks. Dr. Mookerjee was no optimist. One of his brilliant speeches contained the following sentence:—"India has neither the soil nor the elasticity enjoyed by young and vigorous communities, but present the arid rocks and deserts of an effete civilization, hardly stirred to a semblance of life by a foreign occupation dozing over its easily-gained advantages." This was true of the pre-Mutiny India of 1851. If it is no longer true of the Queen's India of 1895, we owe it in no small measure to Indian journalists like Dr. Mookerjee who have laboured, amid some misrepresentation, to quicken the "semblance of life" into a living reality.—The *Times*, (London) October 14, 1895.

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WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

VOL. XIV. CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 28, 1895. WHOLE NO. 705.

CONTEMPORARY POETRY.

THE MEETING OF THE WITANGEMOT,

A SONG OF THE HOUR,

BY

ERIC BRIGHTEYES.

Abasar (or Bengali pieces written at leisure) by Mr. Barada Charan Mitra, M.A., of the Civil Service, contains many short poems of merit. Mr. Mitra is a thorough master of versification. Eminently suited as the Bengali language is to almost every kind of metre, it assumes in Mitra's hands a plasticity that is remarkable. *Abasar* is by no means unworthy of the author whose metrical translation of the Cloud Messenger is regarded as one of the best performances in the line. It argues well for the future of Bengali literature that men of such culture as Mr. Mitra, feel a disposition for it in the midst of engrossing official duties. The book concludes with two English sonnets---one to the Queen and the other to the Viceroy, both of which have appeared in these columns, and another piece of poetry, with which we open our present number, on the passing of Mr. Paul's resolution in Parliament for simultaneous examination of the Indian Civil Service in England and India. It deserves wider recognition.

I.

In council met the Wise Men old,
Their brows agleam with wisdom bold,
And thus their righteous minds they told,
In accents deep and low,
Riving the silence of the Hall,
They rang against the oaken wall,—
They rang, on anvil hammer's fall,—
Clear, distinct and slow.

II.

The Spokesman, chosen of the band,
Deep in mind and strong of hand,—
He stood in posture of command,
In flowing robes bedight;
His long white beard, his face serene,
His deep-brow-roofed bright grey eyes keen,
And close-curve lips, and stately mien,
Bespoke his manhood's height.

III.

Upon the silence of the Hall,
With hammer-weight his words did fall,
Riveting truth to soul of all,—
Truth and justice fair:
And thus, in accents deep and low,
Outspoken, clear, distinct, and slow,
With leap and break of cataract-flow,
Fell his eloquence rare.

IV.

"Hearken, brothers, what I say,
Hearken, ere you give it 'nay',
O ponder well, and win to-day
The golden crown of fame;
Crown giant strength with gentleness,
Crown towering mind with will to bless,
With large-souled Justice' deathless grace
O crown your hearts of flame!

V.

"Our tuneful bards sing, rapt in fire,
Striking loud the patriot lyre,
How, in chapman-like attire,
Our Viking fathers bold,
Across blue ocean's milk-white foam,
Like lords of sea, did dauntless roam,
Scorning the joys of love and home,
* * * * In pirate quest of gold;

VI.

"How, spurning ocean's angry surge,
Despoiling many a lovely marge,
With trusty sails their good ships large,
Careering proudly flew,
Past Sun-set Ocean's mountain-swell,
And past the land where black men dwell,
To where the day-god throws his spell
In morning's rosy hue.

VII.

"Pirates from north and south they fought,
And ruin red full soon they brought,
Till foes, in rue, their mercy sought,—
Such valiant sea-dogs they!—
Till the Sun-rise Land in groan of pain
Of feuds that tore her frame in twain,
With bended knees—and not in vain—
To them for help did pray.

VIII.

"She had her sagas and her saws,
She had her gods, she had her laws,
Her ancient sons did win applause
In feats of mind and arm;—
Twas proud to lend a helping hand,
Full proud to burst her iron band,
Yea, proud, this glorious Sun-rise Land
To shield from fear and harm!

IX.

"From love of pow'r, from love of gold,
From love of fame, our fathers bold
Lent mighty help; and, O behold!
A goodly empire grew;
Beneath their peace-dispensing might,
Red feud was quelled, black wrong set right;
A kingdom great, so fair, so bright,
No monarch ever knew.

Subscribers in the country are requested to remit by postal money orders, if possible, as the safest and most convenient medium, particularly as it ensures acknowledgment through the Department. No other receipt will be given, any other being unnecessary and likely to cause confusion.

X.

" They poured new blood into her frame,—
She had been pale, and halting lame,—
Till on the Sun-rise Land there came
The sun-rise hue of health ;
They fed her with our sagas' lore,
And with our bards' rich music-store ;—
In gladness, lavish did she pour
Into their lap her wealth.

XI.

" Full swift she leapt from hue to hue,
Swift sped red blood her blue veins through,
At heart she joy and gladness knew,—
This beauteous Land of Dawn ;
And covered by our fathers' might,
She brought forth children strong and bright,
O brothers, 'twas a goodly sight,
To see them 'bout her drawn !

XII

" Our brothers they ;—though outward dark,
In them bright glows our fathers' spark,
Attentively, O brothers, hark !
In their fair cause I plead :
Distant wails through midnight gloom,
Across wide ocean's thundrous boom
To me have come, like voice of tomb,—
I have your wisdom's need."

XIII.

With this, he paused a breathing-space,
A light shot o'er his manly grace
Expectantly upon his face,
The gathered Witan hung .—
He paused until the echoes deep
Swooned and sank in silence-sleep,
Then forth again high words did leap,
From deepest feeling sprung

XIV.

" Now, listen, Wise Men, to my tale,
Made half of pœan, half of wail,
Glory and lapse in equal scale,
A tale of love and hate,
Struggles of honor and of self,
Of high resolve and sordid pelf,
Of god of truth and lying elf,—
The tale I now relate

XV

" Our sires unto our brothers swore,—
'We'll cherish you for ever-more,'
And made this known the country o'er,
In solemn pledge of love ;
The Sunrise Land, like morning sky,
Blushed joy at face, and glowed at eye,
And wafted thanks in grateful sigh
To gods that dwell above.

XVI

"Anon dark doubts and jealous fear
Shadowed our fathers' conscience clear,
They thought of *us*,—to them more dear,—
They thought, and thoughtful grew .
But justice came and chased away
This gathering twilight's threatened sway,
Unclouded yet remained the day,—
Then pledge they swore anew

XVII.

" Our dusky brothers with content
On words of truth and honor leant,
The news from home to home was sent
In leaping joy's throb ;—
They linked their darksome brow with ours,
They poured their heart in ruddy showers
In rooting deep our fathers' powers,
Without a groan or sob ;

XVIII.

" Till from the White Head Peak that takes
The first red ray, when Day-god wakes,
And, raining gold, his splendour shakes
Upon the sleeping earth,
To where the lapping ocean-wave
From dawn to dawn doth ceaseless lave
The land of palm and coral cave,
Of pearls the place of birth,—

XIX.

" The reeking sword in peace ensheathed,—
With joy-bright face in smile enwreathed,—
A living empire heaved and breathed,
Three-hundred-million-souled ;
To north, to south, to east, to west,
Flashed with light its beauteous breast,—
A scroll of fame, ray fringed, and prest
With letters all of gold !"

XX.

Like distant thunder's muffled din,
Arose a sound the Hall within,
In praise of great and high Wodin,—
The Speaker's voice was drowned ;
Full soon again came silence deep,
Full soon from him high words did leap,
Like waterfall from craggy steep,
And through the Hall resound.

XXI.

" Alas lost faith and palsied will !—
Our fathers never did fulfil
The promise made,—their thoughts were still
Turned upon *us* here ;
And 'mid the triumph, glory-gilt,
Of present strength, they wanton hurt
Our brother-warriors' tenderest part,
In rash disdain of fear.

XXII.

" So Hela's flame possessed their soul,
Now mad, infuriate, past control,
To vengeance, now their only goal,
They rushed through path of blood .
Drowned were memories of days gone by,
Drowned reverent love, and purpose high,
Grimly raged from sky to sky
The red unholy flood.

XXIII.

" A moment's fit ;—the plunges wild
Of harshly-treated feeling child !—
Full soon then foolish hearts beguiled
Tasted dread remorse ,—
Swiftly the scourge came—sure enow !—
Hung—ghastly sight !—on every bough,
With mangled form and branded brow,
Our rebel brothers' corse !

XXIV.

" Now came the Mother's yearning heart
When father's rod had done its part,
With loving strokes She soothed the smart,
She kissed them in her tears ;
She said in golden voice of May,—
' Let cease your rough-rude Viking way,
Feeling hearts need gentler sway,
Now love shall rule, not fears.'

XXV.

" Out rang the trumpet golden-tongue,
Like gladdening burst of spring-time song,—
' It is Our will, Our sons among
No caste for skin shall be ;
Our children dark, Our children white,
Shall of Our smile have equal light,
Ye holy gods, before your sight
This sacred oath take We ' !"

XXVI.

The Hall was hushed in silence deep,
As if entombed in trancèd sleep,
One almost heard the great heart-leap
That beat 'neath bursting ribs ;—
A presence seemed to fill the Hall,
In Aemu awe deep-wrapt were all ;
With dreadsome echoes 'gainst the wall
Re-oped the speaker's lips :

XXVII

" The tomb has closed o'er many a year,
It came in hope, it died in tear,
Which froze upon its hard and sere
And weather-withered cheek,
The tear for pang of hope deferred,—
For honor's sacred pledges marred,—
For justice' truthful claims unheard,—
For patient suffering meek.

XXVIII.

" Many such years !—They came and went
From rose-hued May to winter hoar ;—
The solemn oaths our fathers swore
A mockery still remain ;
And still our Mother's sacred vow,
Taken with heavenward-raisèd brow,—
O shame, that it is even now
Mere empty word and vain !

XXIX.

'O shame, that still our brothers weep
Upon our honor's death-like sleep,—
Our promise to the ear we keep,
And break it to the hope !
Is this your curse, ye gods, for crime,—
From starry height of truth sublime,
That helpless, hopeless, we should climb
Down falsehood's slimy slope ?

XXX.

'In wisdom great, O brothers all !
Do you not feel, amid this Hall,
The ghostly tread, the gods' footfall,
In outraged majesty,
Of dreaded Thor and fierce Wodin,
Of gentle Freya and Norns thin ?—
This darkness weired, this ghostly din,
O brothers, hear and see !"

XXXI.

He paused and started ; his brow about
Like great round pearls the sweat stood out,
As if the feelings deep, devout
That rushed from heart to eye,
Took thought, in that tumultuous race,
Not there, by drops, to bring disgrace.
And, rushing higher up the face,
Burst on his forehead high

XXXII.

And when relaxed the godly spell,
With heat divine their hearts did swell,
They said, with will which none could quell,
In accents deep and low,
" By Mother's oath and Wodin's name,
We'll wipe this blot of blackest shame,
We'll wear the golden crown of fame !"—
The echoes faded slow.

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WEEKLYANA.

It has been no merry Christmas to the Viceroy. Suffering from a severe cold he has been obliged to keep to his bed. He was unable in consequence to drive in state to the races on the 24th, when his cup was run, or to go to Barrackpore for Christmas. It is a relief to learn that there is improvement in his condition.

***

The Burma and Assam forces occupied, on Christmas Day, without any opposition, the village of the Lushai Chief, Kairuma, which was entirely deserted.

***

The December number of "India," the Congress organ in England, opens with the announcement—"At the time of writing it is understood that a distinguished Muhammedan will preside over the forthcoming Session of the Indian National Congress, which will be held at Poona during the closing days of the year." Mr. Gordon Hewart ought to have been better informed. The Banerjee President of the year, is no Mussulman by birth nor a convert to Islam. He is proud of his Brahmin blood, and has professed no other faith than his ancestors'. If the editor of "India" was not informed betimes of the name of the President-elect, the Congress Committees in India must answer for the misannouncement. Supposing the Hon'ble Surendra Nath's caste and faith unknown at head quarters, who is the distinguished Mahomedan Mr. Hewart had in his mind's eye when he wrote ? If his health had permitted it, a retired Bengali Judge of the Calcutta High Court, but no Mahomedan, would have led the deliberations of the Indian National Assembly of the year.

***

The Viceroy's Council for making Laws will begin its Calcutta session from the 2nd of January, 1896.

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In the forenoon of the 23rd of December, Mr. J Woodburn, C.S.I., of the Indian Civil Service, took upon himself, under the usual salute, the execution of the office of Home Member vacated by Sir Alexander Mackenzie, K.C.S.I. On the 21st, Mr. C. J. Lyall, C.S.I., C.I.E., received from Mr. Woodburn the charge of the Chief Commissionership of the Central Provinces.

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On the recommendation of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce, Mr. Playfair, the President of the Chamber, has been nominated by the Governor-General an Additional Member of the Supreme Legislative Council.

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Sir Charles Paul having returned from leave and rejoined his office, has, as Advocate General, replaced Sir Griffith Evans, as a member of the Lieutenant-Governor's Council for making Laws.

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Sir Alfred Croft, M.A., K.C.I.E., Director of Public Instruction, has been re-appointed Vice Chancellor of the University of Calcutta.

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Under the new powers taken, the Governor-General in Council has appointed Mr. C. A. Roe, one of the Judges, the Chief Judge of the Punjab Chief Court.

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Mr. E. W. Ormond, Second Judge of the Court of Small Causes, goes on leave for two months and thirty days from the 2nd of January, 1896. The Judges below him get a temporary promotion in regular order. Mr. K. M. Chatterjee, the Third Judge, becomes the Second, Mr. Abul Hassan, the Fourth, acts as the Third, Mr. A. F. M. Abdur Rahman, the Additional, officiates as the Fourth, while Mr. C. D. Pantoty, Registrar and chief ministerial Officer, succeeds Mr. Rahman, as *pro tempore* Additional Judge.

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The Deputy Commissioner, for the time being, of the Bhamo District is empowered to exercise all the powers of a Political Agent under the Foreign Jurisdiction and Extradition Act (XXI of 1879) for the Prefecture of Yungchang and Sub-Prefecture of Peng-Yueh in China. As such, he is further authorized to give over any person, arrested and forwarded in accordance with the provisions of section 12 of the said Act, to be tried by the ordinary Courts of the State in which the offence was committed or is alleged to have been committed by such person.

FOR *lèse-majesté*, the publisher and editor of the German weekly *Ethische Kultur* has been sentenced by the First Provisional Court to three months' detention in a fortress. The editor of the *Vorwärts* suffers one month's imprisonment for maintaining that the police provoked brawls in order to have a pretext for interference.

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TENNIS balls are not so harmless as may be supposed. One of them has completely shattered the iris of the eye of Mr. Albert Brassey, M. P.

NOTES & LEADERETTES,

OUR OWN NEWS,

&

THE WEEK'S TELEGRAMS IN BRIEF, WITH OCCASIONAL COMMENTS

THERE is general disquiet in business circles, and the heavy foreign selling has caused a semi-panic in the New York market, where several prominent failures have taken place. The losses are estimated at one thousand million dollars. The collapse in New York has reflected on London and the Continental Bourses. The panic is generally ascribed to President Cleveland's policy in regard to Venezuela and the unanimous adoption by the Senate, without any amendment, of the Bill passed by the House of Representatives for a commission on the Venezuela frontier question.

President Cleveland has signed the Venezuela Commission Bill. The adoption of the Bill by the Senate is ascribed to the desire of the Republicans to cast the whole responsibility in the matter on Mr. Cleveland.

The leading bankers and merchants in several cities are strongly urging Congress to exercise prudence in dealing with the Venezuelan question.

The House of Representatives have sent Mr. Cleveland's financial message to the Committee on Ways and Means.

Heavy sales of American securities continue at New York on behalf of Great Britain and the Continent, entailing a large drain on gold. The Supply of Ways and Means Committee of the House of Representatives advocates an increase in the tariff and a popular Bond Bill.

The tone of the American press is decidedly calmer, and the feeling towards Great Britain is more friendly. This is notably the case with the *New York Tribune*, which has entirely changed its tone and now urges the preservation of peace.

The utterances of the clergy from the pulpit throughout the United States on Sunday strongly deprecated war.

It is believed at Washington that the Venezuelan dispute will eventually end in a peaceful and honourable settlement. President Cleveland's political and financial discredit is increasing, and the markets are improving though still sensitive.

PRESIDENT Cleveland has sent a fresh message to Congress, in which he states that the continued exports of gold demand immediate action to protect the reserve in the Treasury. He urges Congress not to go into recess before enacting legislation to relieve the dangers of the present emergency, and avert the sacrifice of the peoples' interests and the impairment of public credit. The Senate has passed a resolution ordering the Finance Committee to enquire as to the expediency of opening the mints to free coinage of silver. The Ways and Means Committee's bills provide for the imposition of duties which will be equivalent to sixty per cent of the McKinley rates on wool, woollens, and lumber; also a general increase of fifteen per cent. on the present duties, and the issue of short term Government Bonds in order to produce a gold reserve. It is believed that the silver party, especially in the Senate, will refuse to pass the bills unless large concessions are made. The House of Representatives by a large majority have passed the new Tariff Bill, increasing the revenue by forty million dollars annually.

IN response to a request from the *New York World*, the Prince of Wales and the Duke of York have telegraphed that they cannot but believe that the present crisis will be arranged satisfactorily, and that in both countries it will be succeeded by a revival of the old and warm friendship. Mr. Gladstone, in response to an appeal from the same quarter for a word of peace and fellowship, has telegraphed that he dare not interfere, and that only common-sense is required.

ITALY is recalling the majority of her squadron from the Levant. The Powers appear to be averse to active intervention in Turkey, for the present. Partisans of the Armenians are much chagrined at this.

THE *Times*, in commenting on the agitation in England in favour of intervention on behalf of the Armenians, urges that it is impossible for England to act alone in the matter.

THE Turkish troops defeated the Druses on the 19th instant. Christian Assistant Governors have been appointed at St. Sevas, Bitlis, and Erzeroum.

A MOVEMENT is observable in England in favour of the proposal by the Duke of Argyll to invite Russia to undertake the pacification of Armenia.

LORD Salisbury has telegraphed to Nubar Pasha that the Queen has appointed him a Knight Commander of the Star of India, in token of Her Majesty's regard for his services in upholding cordial relations between England and Egypt.

THE Cairo correspondent of the *Times* states that the harmony between British and Native officers in Egypt was never so complete as at present, and that Mustapha Fehmy Pasha is continuing Nubar Pasha's policy.

THE Turkish troops have captured Zeitun. The fighting which preceded the capture of the town was of an obstinate character. The Armenians lost two thousand five hundred men, while the Turkish loss was two hundred and fifty.

THE National Union of the Transvaal British Society has addressed a manifesto to the people demanding equitable constitutional rights. There is much agitation at Johannesburg owing to rumours of a projected uprising of the foreign element, and many citizens are advising moderation.

ACCORDING to *the Manchester Guardian*, it is not improbable that the English agitation against Indian cotton duties may result in a 5 per cent. duty on all imported yarns and yarns spun by power machinery in British India, and a reduction of import duty on cloth from 5 to 3½ per cent. The India Office cannot too long resist the Lancashire demands.

SUNDAY is not a *dies non* in India. The law has ceased to recognize it as such. The prohibition too of 1852 against officials making over or assuming charge on a Sunday has been modified. On the ruling of the Accountant General that Article 254 of the Civil Service Regulations is no bar to such transfer, an order has been made that no charge of an office is to be assumed on a Sunday unless such a course is absolutely necessary.

WE publish in another column the finding of the District Magistrate of Hooghly, to whom it was transferred by the High Court, on the action of the District Magistrate of Nadia in the Ranaghat petroleum prosecution. We do not usually find a Magistrate in charge of a district so obedient to the law as Mr. Geake. Whether he takes a right view or not of chapter X of the Criminal Procedure Code dealing with Public Nuisances and their speedy prevention and suppression, the Magistrate of Hooghly shews a judicial temper, which, if found in every Magistrate in his own district, would be an effectual answer to the cry, becoming louder and louder, for the separation of judicial and executive functions. Mr. Geake thinks the owner of the petroleum depôt, while taking the usual precautions against conflagration or explosion, often disregarded them. Yet, following the directions of the Code, he abstains from making any order or recommendation, and simply rules that the order of the Nadia Magistrate is not reasonable and proper. The prosecution, therefore, drops, for, under the Code, "no further proceedings shall be taken." But do the troubles of Aukhoy Kumar Ghose end here? Is the magistracy of Nadia precluded from issuing another modified notice such as the Magistrate of Hooghly would uphold?

Of the Behar Chiefships, Dumraon, the first in rank, has been foremost in all movements started by authority for the benefit of the Indian peoples. The chief credit of it has always been the Dewan's, but for whom the late Maharajah or the present Maharani, would not have been so prominent. For all his exertions for the Raj Rai Jai Prakash Lal Bahadur has been always allowed a free hand by his master and his mistress and otherwise rewarded. His services have been more than once recognized by Government by accepting him a member of the Bengal Legislative Council and conferment on him of titles of honour and distinction. He has been fortunate enough to belong to the same Eminent Order of the Indian Empire to which his late master was admitted though in a lower rank. Both the Hindu and Mahomedan tenantry of Dumraon have pronounced themselves in his favour by calling him respectively Separi-quam and Mohsin-ul-Mulk. The Pandits of Benares, the beloved city of Bishweshwar, have presented him an address with a copy of Manava-dharm çastra—which they describe as—"benediction in its embodied form; which is to those devoted to the acquisition of Brahma a temple for practising concentration of mind; to those who have renounced the world the temple for subjugation of the senses; to the regenerated their all; to persons even skilled in politics a deep mystery; to the weak their means of rescue; to those with uplifted rods their rod of chastisement; to treaders on the path of morality their grace; the essence of the three Vedas; the armour of the science of rule; the religious rite of those that are wedded to such rites: the righteousness of the righteous; in short, the means of happiness unto all living creatures in the world." The latest demonstration is reported from Ghazipore. The reises there held a reception in his honour. The Town Hall was decorated, and many were present.

It is believed that Mr. Westmacott will go to the Board of Revenue when Mr. Lyall sinks into a Superintendent of the Cooch Behar State, and Mr. Oldham succeeds Mr. Westmacott as Commissioner of the Presidency Division. What is the place reserved for the Hon'ble H. J. S. Cotton?

REIS & RAYYET.

Saturday, December 28, 1895.

SIR CHARLES ELLIOTT AT THE CIVIL SERVICE DINNER.

Sir Charles Elliott's speech, at the farewell dinner which his brother Civilians gave him, was, no doubt, intended as a defence of his five years' administration of Bengal. From a literary point of view, the speech is almost unique. The Indian Civil Service consists of many able men whose facile pens have given to the world many able productions on all manner of subjects. An Indian Civilian, however, on his legs is quite a different person from himself with a pen. The talent for speaking, although the opportunities are many for cultivating it, rarely distinguishes him. Even set speeches are seldom made without the written copy in hand for consulting when memory fails to supply the cue. We do not know how Sir Charles acquitted himself on the occasion. But there can be no doubt that, as reported in the papers, his utterances betray a literary grace and finish that are of a high order. Garnished with quotations from Marcus Aurelius and Virgil, and even from the *Rubbayyat* of Omar Khayyam, the after-dinner speech of the late Lieutenant-Governor is unquestionably a clever production not unworthy of his literary reputation. It is impossible, however, to peruse it without a sigh at the thought of the many signal failures committed by its author in the practical work of administration. No one can deny him the credit of even thorough conscientiousness and the desire of doing good, as also a capacity for grasping details. Unfortunately, a ruler of men must have other qualities than these to achieve success. Sir Charles expatiated before his hearers on the necessity of patience. But if he himself lacked anything more than any other, it was this very virtue of patience. He was as impatient an administrator as any we have seen. His great fault was that as soon as he conceived an idea, he could not rest without seeking to apply it in practice with little regard for the dust he would raise. A Non-Regulation Province, with very little written law to regulate its affairs, and with the unchecked will of those in power doing duty for law and precedent, was the fittest sphere for a man like him. An administration regulated by law would be the ruin of talents such as his. Institutions built up by the united wisdom of a large body of men and working without friction for years together, he adventured to retouch and reform with as little deliberation as if he were giving orders to his own steward about how a particular tree in his own garden should be trimmed or a parterre relaid and replanted. A strong reliance on his own understanding and a general idea of his own intellectual superiority were his besetting sins. The strength of constitutional Government lies in the fact of the little capacity its head for the time being has to introduce changes in the name of reform. Individual opinion has little room for play in constitutional rule. The head of a Province like Bengal is bound to fail if he seeks to regulate the administration by his own will. Vigour degenerates into lawlessness, and reliance on one's own judgment developes into personal caprice. The great fault of the late Lieutenant-Governor was his contempt for other people's opinions and his belief in his own infallibility

As a vindication of his own administration, his speech deserves to be examined with care by any one wishing to apportion him praise or blame for his several measures. Unmistakable evidences occur in it of Sir Charles Elliott's contempt for the law. One of the greatest compensations that British rule has offered to the people of India for loss of freedom is the glorious fabric of British law and British law-courts. Barring acts of State, the Sovereign herself of the Empire has to submit her claims, arising out of municipal law, to the same courts of justice that exist for the people. The same procedure regulates her suits as the suits of the subject. An aggrieved subject may put her Majesty into court for a breach, actual or imagined, of his rights, with as much freedom as if he were proceeding against a fellow-subject. Asiatic legislators have, it is true, spoken of the divinity of the law and represented it as of more authority than the king himself. Passages may be quoted from Manu about the power of the law to command the king; but Manu himself, in his most liberal mood, would have stared with wonder at the attempt of a subject to sue the sovereign or at the sovereign's resolve to submit to the arbitrament of his own judges in such a dispute. The strongest pillar of British rule in India is not British justice, but British justice as dealt out according to British law by the British courts, civil and criminal. Sir Charles Elliott might be the justest of men, but it was not his justice that could satisfy the people. Justice, administered according to the law of the realm by Judges and Magistrates conforming to that law, is, perhaps, the most precious boon that British rule has given to India. Any attempt to tamper with that boon cannot fail to be viewed with alarm by the whole country. The late Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, in seeking to strengthen British rule, sought to undermine its very key-stone. It was an unholy

attempt, and in so far as it succeeded, it should be deplored by all honest men. No measure of good will towards the people, no capacity for mastering the details of administrative measures, even no real reform of abuses, could compensate for such a grave blunder. The apologists of Sir Charles Elliott, while glibly speaking of his virtues, fail to realise this fact. Read the following, uttered by Sir Charles Elliott himself, amid the loud plaudits, if the newspaper reports are correct, of his hearers belonging to the same Service as himself :—

"I would mention one recent improvement which, though small in itself, is, I believe, a valuable and fruitful change ; I mean the publication of the Annual Commissioner's Report 'in extenso' instead of being boiled down and abstracted in a Government Resolution. These reports are, I think, of great use both to the Service and to the public, as showing the thoughts which are brooding in the minds of the senior Officers of Government and the lines on which they would carry out administrative improvement. I have made the following list of a few of the principal items touched on in their reports for last year : the conduct and shortcomings of the police ; the tendency to excessive severity in their punishments, the growth of unfounded charges against them ; the territorial distribution of criminal cases ; the defects in the administration of criminal justice ; the danger of holding up an impossibly high standard of evidence---(loud and prolonged cheers),---the worship of the fetish of the 'first Information at the Thana'---(cheers),---the duty of the Magistrate to discover the truth of a case, not merely to weigh preponderance of evidence---(loud cheers) ;---the 'Tauzi' procedure for the collection of Revenue ; the registration of mutations in Government estates ; the objects and value of sub-divisional officers' tours ; the unsound character of the Provident Societies growing up in some districts ; the mismanagement of pounds and ferries by District Boards ; the improvement of waterways and towpaths, development of roadside wells and of water-supply ; the liability of certain parts of the country to distress by famine ; the principles of land acquisition compensation ; the management of Wards' Estates ; the effects on Excise Revenue on the condition of the people ; defects in the certificate procedure and 'knockout' sales of land ; relief by emigration to the congested population ; forest protection and afforestation. And lastly, I may mention the important question of the effect of the fall in the price of silver on the prices of food, (Laughter.) All these are matters as to which there is room for administrative improvement, or ground for serious thought. They are types of the questions which occupy the thoughts of the senior men, and their reports show the line they would take if they had full powers, and occupied the highest posts, for which I am assured they would be found to be fully competent, if only there were enough high posts for them to fill! I trust that the juniors in the Service will bear these suggestions in mind, and remember that now is their time to consider the directions that reforms should take, and to frame the policy they would wish to carry out if they rise to power ; for just as every soldier carries the possibility of a field-marshal's baton in the knapsack, so every Civilian should look on himself as a potential Lieutenant-Governor."

In presenting the topics included in the reports of Divisional Commissioners, Sir Charles did not treat his audience to a mere abstract of contents of a particular species of public documents, but wished to impress it upon his hearers that the heads touched offered types of questions that engaged the thoughts of the District administrations and that they pointed out the directions that reform should take, and that, therefore, the younger men in the Service should, by their light, frame the policy they should wish to carry out if they rose to power. "The defects in the administration of Criminal Justice ; the danger of holding up an impossibly high standard of evidence ; the worship of the fetish of the 'first Information at the Thana' ; the duty of the Magistrate to discover the truth of a case, not merely to weigh preponderance of evidence,"—these short heads embody a policy utterly subversive of British law as administered by British Judges and Magistrates trained in that law. It has been the glory of Britain to build up a criminal law, both substantive and adjective, that is the admiration of the whole civilised world. The wisest and greatest Englishmen have laboured in the cause, supplying the materials out of which that grand edifice has been constructed. Guilt, whatsoever its moral certainty, is incapable of being punished unless legally proved. The man accused of an offence must be presumed innocent until his offence is established beyond the possibility of a doubt. Hearsay or general report is rigidly excluded. Either direct evidence or the most correct inferences from proved circumstances must form the basis of a conviction or sentence. The guilty may escape, but innocence should on no account suffer. The greatest jurists have held that the publicity, worry, disgrace, and expenses of a criminal trial exercise, even on the most depraved, an effect as deterrent as that of a conviction followed by sentence. Even this constitutes the chief vindication of the doctrine that the escape of even ten guilty persons is not so baneful as the conviction of a single innocent man. Sir Charles Elliott, with all his learning, is ignorant of the principles of criminal jurisprudence as also of the utility of those rules of evidence upon which courts of justice act. Sir Rivans Thompson had been a successful District and Session Judge. There was no danger, under his rule, of any interference with officials engaged in administering the law. Sir Ashley Eden and Sir Steuart Bayley were both Bengal Civilians. Though not lawyers themselves, they had been trained in a respect for the law and its recognised methods of application. The late Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal had achieved his laurels in districts and provinces administered according to the Non-Regulation system. He had seen his own will do duty for the law. He had never listened to the arguments of Counsel or even of petty Muktears in disposing of such matters, civil or criminal, as came before him. Hence Bengal with her law-governed constitution was utterly distasteful to him. He could not brook the idea that any Magistrate should be prevented from punishing a person sent up by the Police after sufficient enquiry. The thought that rules of evidence should operate to exclude this or that fact or paper from the cognizance of the court was gall and wormwood to him. According to him, the Magistrate, when trying a prisoner, should not be bound by any law to proceed in the known groove which the wisdom of even Indian legislators has provided. On the other hand, the Magistrate should be free as the mountain air to do whatever he pleased for discovering the truth of the matter before him. The Indian Evidence Act has reduced the entire Law of Evidence into only a hundred and sixty-seven short sections. Even this is too much for Sir Charles's Magistrates. He wants to caution them against the "danger of holding up an impossibly high standard of evidence.' They are, therefore, for winning his praise, to convict persons placed before them even when the evidence is weak! If, instead of general advice which, however ably couched in words, cannot, from its very nature, fail to be somewhat vague, Sir Charles Elliott had written a little book on the exact measure of evidence that would justify a conviction, he would certainly have achieved a lasting fame under terms exceedingly cheap.

Seriously speaking, no advice could be more baneful in its consequences upon both the people and the Government than what the late Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal dared to openly give to his brethren of the Service. As we have already said, it weakens the very foundations of British rule It seeks to taint justice at its very source. And this is the great Proconsul whose praises have been sung by friendly critics! Strongly opposed as we are

to the mischievous policy of Sir Charles Elliott in reducing the value of the highest compensation that British rule has granted to the people of India for their loss of freedom. we would not wish Sir Charles to stand a trial, for even a petty offence—the gentlemanly one, for example, of knocking down, when hungry, a disobedient native—before one of his own model Magistrates capable of acting up to his sound advice about the standard of evidence needed for a conviction.

THE PANDITS OF BENGAL AND SIR CHARLES ELLIOTT.

FOR the grant that Sir Charles Elliott's Government made for the encouragement of Sanskrit learning in Bengal, the great Pandits of this province presented to him, on the eve of his retirement, a couple of addresses in Sanskrit prose and verse, acknowledging their obligations. The Pandits eschew politics altogether, and confine themselves to matters concerning them alone. The addresses, though indulging in a little fulsome adulation, are innocent enough. Yet the Pandits and their leaders are being abused by a certain section of the Calcutta press, in no measured terms, Mahamahopadhya Mahesh Chandra Nyaratna having the largest share. We are not concerned in vindicating or taking exception to what he has done. To those, however, who are pouring their Billingsgate on him, it ought to be obvious that, even on the supposition that he was the prime mover, it does not follow that he deserves nothing but censure He had tried previous rulers for pecuniary aids for the same purpose. They promised but did nothing. Sir Charles Elliott took up the question earnestly, and, in spite of the inevitable circumlocution of red tape, was able to pass his final orders ere half the term of his office had expired. The neo-Hindu exponents of the Press may not attach any value to the grants-in-aid made by the Government of Sir Charles. Their idea perhaps is that the Pandits should live on air, or on something still less substantial, as, for instance, fine phrases. Looked at from the point of view of practical men, Sir Charles Elliott gave great encouragement to the cultivation of Sanskrit, and, according to the rules of morality taught by the Hindu *shastras*, it was clearly incumbent on the Pandits to acknowledge the debt of gratitude to their benefactor.

Much has been made of the fact that, although Pandit Nyaratna had settled at Benares, yet he came down again to the sphere of his political activity to arrange what has been called the "Puja" of Charles Elliott. Admitting that the Pandit had left Calcutta for good, the fact that he returned to the metropolis, and either originated or joined in the recent demonstration, does not necessarily imply anything discreditable to him. How the movement originated among the Pandits is not known to us. Mahamahopadhya Nyaratna was perhaps its leading spirit. But long before the late Lieutenant-Governor laid down the reins of office, the opinion had become general among the Pandits of Nadia that they were bound in duty to express their gratitude to him, They intended to ask Sir Charles to visit their town and to be lionised there. But the illness and the untimely death of their leader, Babu Mahendra Nath Bhattacharjea, upset their plans. About the end of November last, the Pandits of the other parts of Bengal held a meeting at Calcutta and unanimously resolved upon an address. The Pandits of Nadia had been asked to join. They held a meeting to determine their course of action. They decided that it would not be consistent with their position to accept a footing of equality with the Pandits of other places. Simultaneously they felt it absolutely incumbent on them to do something for Sir Charles Elliott. Such a demonstration was necessary, not only as a matter of duty but also as one of policy. The stipends granted for the students and the Pandits of Nadia, have not yet been made permanent. They have been sanctioned as a tentative measure. Such being the case, it would have been simple madness on the part of the Nadia Pandits to refrain from a movement for honouring Sir Charles Elliott. We do not mean to say that the authorities would have actually gone so far as to withdraw the grants to punish the contumacious Pandits. At the same time we could not condemn the professors of the *toles* if they entertained such apprehensions. As a matter of fact, the line of action they took was dictated not so much by considerations of their interests as a class, as by their ideas of duty Gratitude is an irksome feeling to many men in this world. But, according to our holy legislators, there is not a greater sin than ingratitude.

Some of our contemporaries have condemned the action of Dr. Jogendra Nath Bhuttacharya for his part in the demonstration. The Doctor however had little choice in the matter. He had been in a manner forced by his townsmen to accept the office of President of the Nadia College of Pandits vacated by the death of his brother. He tried his best to have his fellow-townsman Rai Bahadoor Dwarka Nath Bhattacharya, M.A., B.L., for the office. But the Rai Bahadoor persistently refused the honour, and the general opinion that it was due to the Doctor was so strong that he had to yield. Though much older in age, the Rai Bahadoor has agreed to be one of the other office-bearers of the institution. He accompanied the deputation that waited on Sir Charles Elliott. It is not true that the great Pandits of Nadia kept themselves aloof from the movement. They joined it one and all, despite all efforts to the contrary.

The deputation consisted of at least one hundred of the leading Pandits, hailing from every part of Bengal, Bihar and Orissa. There were present not only most of the Mahamahopadhyas but also most of the untitled giants of Sanskrit learning. After introducing them to Sir Charles Elliott, Mahamahopadhya Mahesh Chandra made a brief speech observing that it was in every sense a representative gathering of Pandits, the like of which had never before greeted any previous ruler. The success of the deputation was somewhat marred by the failure of Pandit Dukhmochan Jha to read the address with sufficient fluency. He is a veteran scholar, and is the eldest son of the great Sanskritist of the last generation Pandit Bapu Jan Jha. Age has impaired the eyes of Dukhmochan, and the Pandit Sabha of Calcutta made a mistake in selecting him as the reader. However, the disappointment caused by the Mithila Pandit was wellnigh removed by the fervour with which Dr. Jogendranath Bhuttacharya as President of the Nadia College of Pandits, read the address of the Society. After the reading of the addresses, Sir Charles Elliott replied, briefly explaining the origin of the scheme for encouraging

Sanskrit *toles*. At the request of Sir Charles Elliott, Dr. Bhuttacharya explained the purport in Bengali. The deputation ended with the reciting of some verses composed *extempore* by Pandit Mahesh Chander Chudamani, the family priest of the Maharaja of Dinajpore.

THE LITERATURE OF BENGAL.

A European colleague of Mr. R. C. Dutt, of the Indian Civil Service, expressed surprise at the "modernity" of much of the old Bengali poetry quoted in his book "The Literature of Bengal," and, being under the impression that Bengali was one of the latest of civilized languages, told Mr. Dutt so, adding that the prose specimens in legal deeds of 120 years back shew that neither the grammar nor the syntax of the language was then in a settled state. We annex Mr. Dutt's reply. It explains some of the points touched upon in the book. He writes:—

"Bidyapati was not a Bengali poet. He was a native of Behar, a Behari poet, and wrote in Hindi like other Behari poets. It is a common mistake to call him the father of Bengali poetry; he is not that in any sense of the phrase, except that his poetry inf Hindi inspired Chandidas, the father of Bengali poetry.

John Beames made a mistake in his Grammar of Aryan Languages in considering Bidyapati a Bengali poet, and inferring that his language (Hindi) was the language of Bengal in the 14th century. Grierson, with whom I had a talk on the subject, will tell you exactly Bidyapati's place among Behari poets;—he has no place among Bengali poets.

The poetry of Chandidas who flourished almost contemporaneously with Bidyapati shews that the language of Bengal in the 14th century was what it is now,—Bengali, not Hindi.

Not recognizing Bidyapati to be a Bengali poet I have not devoted a chapter to him. I have noticed his poetry in the chapter on Chandidas because Chandidas is vastly indebted to the Behar poet and borrows his inspiration from him.

Many Bengali songs are current in Bengal and occasionally appear in print which go under the name of Bidyapati. These are only Bengali imitations of Bidyapati's Hindi poetry, for Bidyapati wrote nothing in Bengali. There is no reason to suppose that Bidyapati's Hindi poems which I have quoted in my book are modernized.

Similarly there is no reason to suppose that Chandidas's Bengali songs which I have quoted in my book are modernized. The language of poetry was in Bengal much the same in the 15th and 16th and 17th centuries as it is now, except that it is a little more Sanscritised in our own age. See the passage in p. 57 taken from a MSS. *Ramayana* of 1693. The passage, I believe, was the same as Krittibas wrote it in the 15th or 16th century, and it is not obsolete in any way,—there is not a word in it which is obsolete. This proves that the literary Bengali language is some centuries old, and not of modern growth, and that it was much the same in the 15th and 16th centuries as it is now. Read again the several passages quoted from Mukundaram of the 17th century in pages 96 to 113. They are quoted from an edition compiled from old MSS. as I have said in p. 103, and yet they are not obsolete.

What you say about Bengali being of recent formation is true of Bengali *prose*. We had no Bengali prose literature before this century, and the official documents of previous centuries, of which you speak may well be obsolete to some extent now. Ram Mohan Roy's prose which I have quoted in pages 142 and 143 strikes us as somewhat antiquated, and I have said so at page 139. Even Iswar Gupta's prose quoted in pp. 158 and 159, though scarcely half a century old, is to us what English prose previous to Queen Anne's time is to modern Englishmen. Vidyasagar and Akhoy Kumar have done for Bengali prose what Addison and his contemporaries have done for English prose.

Among the later chapters of my book, Chapter XVII on dramatic writers will probably interest you as you have taken a great deal of interest in modern Bengali Drama. And you will be amused to read in that chapter under what influences a Hindu-College Young Bengal like Madhu Sudan Datta for the first time turned to the vernacular of his country after vainly trying to win his laurels in English. The life of Madhu Sudan Datta (chapter XVIII) is instructive for this reason. There is no doubt that Young Bengal neglected his mother tongue for 40 years after the establishment of the Hindu College, but I do not regret his partiality for western thought and western languages. New ideas and a new inspiration were sadly required after the effete literature of the time of Bharat Chandra Rai, and modern Bengali writers have drawn that inspiration and will continue to draw it for years to come from the west, through the English language. For this reason, English education is a help to us for the development of Bengali literature."

In connection with the book and our notice of it, we have received the following letter from a diligent student of Bengali:

Sir,—Mr. R. C. Dutt's recent publication, *Literature of Bengal*, has been reviewed elaborately in the last issue of your much esteemed journal. The critical observations are, indeed, worthy of the paper. There are a few points in the book, as well as in your remarks, on which, I think, it is necessary to say a few words.

You remark that "the songs of Ram Bose and others among his competitors, if collected from the old men who still recite or sing them with rapturous delight," &c. The songs of these immortal Bengali bards and *Kabiwalas* have already been collected and published by Kedarnath Bandyopadhya of Dakhineshwar and can be had at the market at Re. 1-4. It is a neatly got-up book with nearly all the well-known songs of the famous Kabiwalas of Bengal, namely, (1) Haru Thakur, (2) Ram Bose, (3) Shatu Roy, (4) Gangadhur Mookerjee, (5) Nalu Nandalala, (6) Bholanath, (7) Antony Saheb, (8) Nilu Patni, (9) Rashu Nrishingha, (10) Kristo Bhattya, &c., &c. Short accounts are given of the lives of these *immortal ten* and their satellites. These songs were at first collected by the late Ishwar Chandra Gupta, the Editor of *Sambad Prabhakar*, but were not published by him. In 1890 they were published with an excellent review by an eminent literary man of Bengal, a profound Sanskrit scholar. Mr. Dutt, being an England-returned Bengali and a Civilian to boot, is, I am afraid, ignorant of the existence of this book, which, no doubt, is a telling sign of the revival of Bengali Literature.

As regards the unfortunate Ranga Lal Banerjea, the remarks which you have been pleased to make, are worthy of you. Every Bengali, interested in the welfare of his mother-tongue, ought to feel grateful to you. We are really deficient in appreciating true poetic faculty and genius. We often fail to honour merit. Mr. R. C. Dutt is carried away by his devotion to Michael Datta so effectually as to do an injustice to Ranga Lal Banerjee.

In the paragraph on journalism, in the last chapter of the book, Mr. Dutt, the President of the Bengal Academy of Literature, barely mentions the immortal Hurish Chunder Mookerjee, and Kristodas Pal too—"the self-seeking demagogue" of the *Calcutta University Magazine*. But a notice of journalism in Bengal, without the names of the late lamented Grish Chandra Ghosh, the founder of both the *Hindoo Patriot* and the *Bengalee* (the latter is now conducted by a friend of Mr. Dutt) and Dr. Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee, the most celebrated paragraphist and leader-writer that the Eastern world, (why not Western also, on the authority of the distinguished Professor Vambéry?) has ever seen and produced, is very like the play of *Hamlet* with the part of the Prince of Denmark left out. Mr. R. C. Dutt, perhaps, does not know the names of these immortal men. The former, snatched away somewhat prematurely by the hand of death, is unknown to the Philistines. But what of the latter? Is he also unknown to the Philistines of Babudom? We may not, however, fail foul

of Mr. Dutt, for an unwillingness to do justice to Ghosh and Mookerjee is a fault which is shared with Mr. Dutt by "cultured" Babudom throughout the length and breadth of the land. Bengal takes no pleasure in honouring her greatest sons. Like Sir Henry Taylor, the author of *Philip Van Artevelde*, we must rest content with the thought that "the world knows nothing of its greatest men."

Again, nearly all the extracts of Mr. R. C. Dutt's book, from the works of Bengali writers, are taken, without a word of acknowledgment, from Pandit Ramgati Nayaratna's famous work on the same subject. Mr. Dutt's book is an abridged English translation of Pandit Nyaratna's. The amount of knowledge required for writing such works satisfactorily can hardly be found among many men of Bengal. A sound Sanskrit scholar like the late lamented Pandit may undertake the task, but still there are many obstacles in the way. Mr. Dutt's book may satisfy superficial readers, but it is not for those who know anything of the subject.

The book is dedicated to a relative of Mr. Dutt, Rai Sashi Chandra Dutt, Bahadur, the famous author of *The Reminiscences of a Kerani's Life*, for whose sake Rai Kristodas Pal Bahadur once emancipated himself from the restrictions of truth and even probability. The chapters of the *Literature of Bengal*, were first published in the *Bengal Magazine* now defunct, edited by the late lamented Rev. Lalbehari Dey, in three consecutive years, 1874, 1875 and 1876, and not in 1877 as Mr. Dutt mentions in his preface very forgetfully. They appeared under the *nom-de-plume* Arcydæ. The last chapter is disfigured by numerous instances of the author's narrow prejudices. A good advertisement occurs of the literary products of the Rambagan Dutt family, the author's own. The fact is, that the subject is such that Mr. R. C. Dutt's qualifications fall short of it. Though a Bengali, he is a cockney by birth. He has studied the subject in later life. He has certainly shown the book-making art in producing the volume, but no originality nor research. The investigations, as regards many points, have not been advanced by even one step beyond the line reached by Pandit Ramgati Nayaratna. The criticisms, again, of most of the Bengali authors, besides being superficial, are stale. The criticisms by Ramgati Nayaratna are certainly more interesting and pleasanter reading. It would have enhanced the value of Mr. R. C. Dutt's book if he had translated the condemnatory portions of the Pandit's critiques on some of the modern Bengali poets.

S. C. Sanyal.

THE DECADENT "SIR."

It is perhaps inevitable that English should become vulgarised the more we educate the "masses." Great, however, as have been the benefits of cheap schools in the direction of raising the standard of intelligence and diminishing the statistics of crime, no one can help viewing with regret the extraordinary change they have produced in the phraseology of the people. David Macrae describes the American negro as "clutching at a polysyllable as a drowning man clutches at a straw." These words apply forcibly to the better class of British working men to-day—not, of course, to the brutalised navvy, whose vocabulary is still supposed to be limited to 200 words, chiefly adjectives, but to the intelligent workman who reads the newspapers and attends political meetings. It is difficult, by the way, to gauge the influence which newspapers and platform orators have exercised in moulding the remarkable English of the "New Proletarian." But the fact remains that a man of this type uses as many long words as an English speaking Native of Bengal, and often with as little regard to their meaning or appropriateness. "Turn" becomes "revolve," "see" "perceive," and "mean" "intend," while words like "anticipate," "incomprehensible" (which frequently has a double application) "beneficial," "qualify," and a hundred other sonorous expressions are scattered plentifully throughout their daily speech.

Strange and sad are the metamorphoses which a number of these classical phrases undergo through repeated application to debased uses. The most serious danger threatening them is, however, their total elimination from the vocabulary of the polite. Wild horses will not induce people of refinement to associate themselves with usages which have been trailed in the gutter; and the tendency is to avert the danger of contamination by giving them as wide a berth as possible. Slang is the extreme antithesis of elaborate diction. In their endeavour to escape from the latter, the "hupper suckles," as Jeames de la Pluche would say, have drawn upon the resources of the former, and from them slang terms have descended, like the gentle rain from Heaven, upon the places beneath. Before the approach of slang many of the older and statelier forms of address have practically disappeared. Of none, perhaps, is the extinction more to be regretted than of the characteristically English "Sir." We do not need to be reminded of the fact that it is still used upon formal occasions, and as the medium by which to approach a social or official superior. But it is unnecessary to remind any one that as an embellishment of ordinary conversation it has ceased to exist. In reply to the reader who is not *laudator temporis acti*, and who sees nothing fine in the word, it is sufficient to refer to Boswell's Johnson, where it is seen in its best and most varied applications. "Mr. Johnson," cries Boswell on being introduced to the great man, "I do indeed come from Scotland, but I cannot help it." "That, Sir," is the retort, "that Sir, I find, is what a very great many of your countrymen cannot help." "Sir," says Mr. Boswell at their next meeting, "I am afraid that I intrude upon you." "Sir," replies the Doctor, "I am obliged to any man who visits me." "Why yes, Sir," observed the lexicographer on another notable occasion, "Sherry (Sheridan) is dull, naturally dull; but it must have taken him a long time to become what we see him. Such an excess of stupidity, Sir, is not in nature." Here we have the "Sir" depreciatory, the "Sir" courteous, and the "Sir," sarcastic. The word has been spoken of as characteristically English, and so much may be confidently claimed for it. It is one of the shortest words spoken. There is a curt dignity about it such as we only associate with the Anglo-Saxon race. It is much more effective than the French and German equivalents of "Monsieur" and "Mein Herr." "Sir!" exclaims Miss Lydia Languish to Captain Absolute, and that warrior falls back, with the remark "Egad! That damned monosyllable has frozen me." It is strikingly English, too, in its utilitarian and adaptable qualities. We use it as the habitual designation of a K.C.S.I. or a baronet. It is a term of respect which may be applied either to a deserving beggar, or to a King. "Will your men fight?" asked William III. of the traitor Hamilton at the Boyne. 'On my honour, Sir, I think they will," was the reply. "Your honour, Sir!" retorted his Majesty, though we admit that the emphasis on this occasion was on the word "honour."

One of our grievances is that even when used nowadays it is frequently misapplied. If its original meaning was "senior," "elder," "superior," it cannot but sound incongruously when a grey haired veteran in the campaign of life is heard to "Sir" a good-for-nothing whipper-snapper not out of his teens. It was because the late Dr. S. C. Mookerjee recognised the true inwardness of the term that he once declared that his Brahmanic pride revolted from the thought of addressing a Sudra as "Sir." This, by the way, was only one of the many instances which prove the thoroughness with which that remarkable man had assimilated the English spirit, and the English modes of expression. Thackeray could not have hit upon a better expedient for bringing out the innate vulgarity of the unfortunate Bob Stubbs than by introducing his conversation with the German shoemaker. "Sir, indeed!" cries Bob, in reply to the respectful salutation of the tradesman, "I'd have you know that when you speak to a lord you have no business to address him as 'Sir.'" Anyone but Bob Stubbs would have known that "Sir" conveys the notion of respect with a far greater force than either "My Lord," or "Your Lordship." Even "Your Excellency" is less imposing and comprehensive title than Captain Absolute's monosyllable. Of its intrinsic dignity and worth at least one character in Shakespeare was fully persuaded; for he was "Jack Falstaff" with his familiars "John" with his brothers and sisters, and "Sir John" with all Europe.

—The *Englishman*, December 21, 1895.

THE RANAGHAT PETROLEUM PROSECUTION

THE FINDING OF THE MAGISTRATE.

Proceedings under Section 133, C. P. C., against Akhoy Kumar Ghose.

On July 30th of this year the District Magistrate of Nadia issued an order on Aukhoy Kumar Ghose to remove petroleum from his depôt at Ranaghat on the ground that running and storing petroleum opposite the railway station was likely to cause conflagration or explosion. On August 8th the said Aukhoy Kumar Ghose appeared and showed cause, he also asked that the proceedings should be transferred to another court. Ultimately the case was transferred by the High Court to this court and the question now before me is simply to decide whether the above order is reasonable and proper or not. I do not consider that it lies within the province of this Court to modify the order as the chapter of the Criminal Procedure Code with which we are now concerned only contemplates modifications in those cases where a jury is called. It is thus necessary to deal with the order literally and in its

entirety. In my view of the law it lies upon Aukhoy Kumar Ghose to show that the order was not reasonable. The section under which the order purports to have been issued runs as follows :—

"Whenever a District Magistrate * * * considers * * * that * * * the disposal of any substance as likely to occasion conflagration or explosion, should be * * stopped, he may make a conditional order requiring the person owning, possessing * * * or controlling such * * substance, * * to alter the disposal of such substance ;" &c., &c.

In this case the District Magistrate considered the disposal, that is, the tinning and storing of the petroleum to be likely to cause conflagration or explosion and he consequently ordered the absolute removal of the petroleum.

I am not prepared to maintain this as a reasonable and proper order. Tinning and storing without proper precaution might be such a disposal as would be likely to cause conflagration or explosion, but such is not the state of affairs as disclosed in the order. Tinning and storing alone comprise the disposal complained of and it would be straining the law to hold that total removal of the substance amounted to a reasonable alteration in the disposal thereof. Before a Magistrate could legally order the disposal of petroleum to be altered he must be satisfied that the disposal is such as in the ordinary course of events might cause conflagration or explosion. But the disposal which is required to be altered is merely tinning and storing. Tinning and storing are perfectly legitimate processes and in themselves need give rise to no apprehension of danger. Possibly the Magistrate meant that tining and storing carried on in the manner adopted by Aukhoy Kumar Ghose were dangerous, but this is not stated in the order nor can it bear that interpretation. The order merely propounds the theory that tinning and storing of petroleum constitute a disposal of the same as is likely to cause conflagration or explosion, this is a proposition with which I find it impossible to concur. Under certain circumstances these processes are conducted without practical possibility of danger, under other circumstances it is concievable that very imminent danger may attend the operations ; but in order to justify action by a Magistrate under section 133, C. P. C., it is necessary to state very clearly in the order what those circumstances are. Before this court both parties have confined themselves solely to producing evidence as to the manner in which tinning and storing are carried on by Aukhoy Kumar Ghose and as to the danger arising from the special methods employed by him in his depôt, as distinguished from those in vogue elsewhere. As stated above I am not disposed to treat this case from such points of view at all. The order treats of tinning and storing generally—it does not find fault with Aukhoy Kumar Ghose's manner of doing business as regards any particular feature. But apart from more or less technical defects which in my opinion render the order unreasonable, the case has been fully tried on its merits. Apart from the wording of the order, the case for the prosecution is that Aukhoy Kumar Ghose carried on his business in a manner calculated to bring about a general conflagration and hence he was told to move his depôt into the middle of a field. This depôt was constructed in 1893 with the express sanction of the Municipal Commissioners. The rules under the Petroleum Act give the Commissioners power to grant licenses within Municipal limits : at least the Magistrate's license under Act XII of 1886 is not required within such limits (*vide Calcutta Gazette* of May 22nd 1895). The evidence adduced on both sides convinces me that up to a date just anterior to these proceedings the transport of oil to the depôt, the filling of the tins and soldering were being done in a very careless manner. According to the expert evidence adduced by the defence the danger is more apparent than real, but nevertheless I have no doubt that the disposal of petroleum at that time was such as to cause a reasonable apprehension of danger. At the same time it must be admitted that from the very initiation of the dispute Aukhoy Kumar Ghose has shown himself ready to meet any suggestion made regarding the prevention of possible danger, short of moving his depôt elsewhere—and if it is shown that the trade with its necessary accompaniment can be carried on with safety in such a depôt when necessary precautions are taken, I think it unreasonable to demand its removal and the duty of executive authority extends only to seeing that proper precautionary measures are taken. The evidence adduced in support of the views taken by the executive authorities of the Nadia District is of a very meagre description ; it does not deal with the state of affairs at the time the order was issued and there is nothing to contradict the allegation of Aukhoy Kumar Ghose that at the time when he was ordered to remove petroleum from his depôt it was already empty. The evidence and general experience show that tinning and storing of petroleum can be carried on without manifest danger to the public. Such a disposal of petroleum is not calculated to cause conflagration or explosion. In order to satisfy myself more and thoroughly on these points I have visited the depôt at Ranaghat as also the large depôt in Calcutta and small shops in Circular Road and Jaunbazar. I have also taken measures to ascertain how the trade is carried on in this district at commercial centres like Serampore, Seoraphuli and Tarakeswar. The precautions taken by Aukhoy Kumar Ghose at Ranaghat, so far as the evidence goes, appear to be of equal efficacy with those taken elsewhere. Experiments to test the inflammability of oil, similar to that dealt in by him, have also been conducted in my presence. That the precautions, alleged by the witnesses, were often disregarded is I think beyond reasonable doubt, and if I had the power I should have modified the order as to ensure the enforcement of these precautions which are admittedly necessary, but as it lies with me to find definitely whether the order as it stands literally is reasonable or not, I have no hesitation in deciding against it. Under Section 137, C.P.C., I am satisfied that the order made by the District Magistrate of Nadia is not reasonable and proper and no further proceedings shall be taken under such order.

E. GEAKE,
Offg. Magistrate.

Hooghly,
December 18, 1895.

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THE DOG, THE MAN, AND THE MEAT.

A FRIEND of mine and I were walking together the other day ; a dog dashed past us after something he saw on the pavement. It was a big piece of meat. He pounced on it and swallowed it in two seconds. My companion looked at the dog with envious admiration. "My humble friend," he said, "I'll give you £5,000 for your appetite and your digestion, *you* are not afraid to eat ; I am." But the dog knew what happiness is made of. He declined the offer and trotted away.

It is astonishing how many different people use this expression. "I am" or "I was" afraid to eat. As the writer pens these lines five letters lie on the table before him, every one of them containing it. Yet the persons who wrote the letters are not known to one another. There was, therefore, no agreement among them. Why should there be, even if they *were* acquainted ?

No, there is nothing in it to wonder at. They went through the same experience, and express it in the most natural way, that's all.

But what does it mean ? Are people suspicious of poisoned food ? No, no ; that is not so. The food is not poisoned before it is eaten, but afterwards. An example will show what really occurs, and why so many are afraid to eat.

We quote from one of the letters : "One night, early in 1892," says the writer, "I was seized with dreadful pains in the pit of the stomach, and a choking sensation in the throat. I feared I was going to die. My wife called in a neighbour. They applied hot flannels and turpentine, but I got no relief. Then a doctor came and gave me medicine. He said he never saw anyone's tongue in such a condition. It was of a yellow colour, and covered with a slimy phlegm, so thick I could have scraped it with a knife. I had a foul, bitter taste in the mouth, and my eyes were so dull I could scarcely see. I had a heavy pain in the side, and felt so dejected and miserable I didn't know what to do with myself. What little food I took gave me so much pain *I was afraid to eat.* The doctor put me on starvation diet, and injected morphine to ease the pain.

"Getting no real benefit from the first doctor I saw another, who said I had enlargement of the liver. He gave me medicines, but I got no better. In August I went to Exmouth to see what my native air would do for me, but came back worse than ever. I had lost over three stone in weight, and being too weak to move about I used to lie on the couch most of the time. I never expected to get well, and didn't care much what became of me.

"One day in October my wife said, '*It appears the doctors can do nothing for you, so I am going to doctor you myself.*' She went to the Southern Drug Stores, in Camberwell Road, and got a bottle of Mother Seigel's Curative Syrup. After taking this medicine for a few days the pain in my stomach left me, my appetite improved, and I gained some strength. Soon afterwards I was back at my work. The people in the office, seeing how well I looked, asked what had cured me, and I answered Mother Seigel's Syrup. I shall be glad to reply to any inquiries about my case. (Signed) Charles Harris, 74, Beresford Street, Camberwell, London, December 1st, 1892."

Mr. Harris' statement goes straight to the point. Why was he afraid to eat ? Because his food gave him pain without giving him strength. This was dead wrong. It was exactly the reverse of what it should have been. When a man is the proper form he gets vigour and power from his meals, and eats them with enjoyment and relish. If he doesn't there is something the matter with him. What is it ?

Now let your thoughts expand a bit, so as to take in a broad principle. One man's meat is another man's poison, they say. That's so, but it's only half the truth. *Any man's meat is any man's poison,* under certain conditions. If grain never got any further than the mill hopper we should never have bread, and if bread (or other food) never got further than the stomach we should never have strength. See ? Well when the stomach is torpid, inflamed, and "ON STRIKE," what happens ? Why, your food lies in it and rots. The fermentations produces poisons which get into the blood and kicks up the worst sort of mischief all over the body. This is indigestion and dyspepsia, though the doctors call each and every trick of it by a separate name. Yet they don't cure it which is the main thing after all.

But Mother Seigel's Curative Syrup does, as Mr. Harris says, and as thousand of other say.

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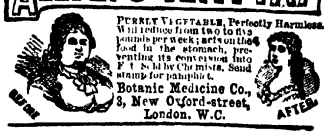

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to Atkinson, the late Mr. E. T., C.S.,
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Banerjee, Babu Manmathanath
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Ghose, Babu Narendra K.
Ghosh, Babu Kali Prasanna.
Graham, Mr. William
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Iyer, Mr. A. Krishnaswami.
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Mahomed, Moulvi Syed.
Mitra, Mr. B. C.
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Mookerjee, Raja Peary Mohun.
Mookerjee, Babu Surendra Nath.
Murshidabad, the Nawab Bahadoor of
Routledge, Mr. James.
Roy, Babu E. C.
Roy, Babu Sarat Chunder.
Sanyal, Babu Dinabandhu.
Savitri Library.
Tippera, the Raja Thakur of.
Vambéry, Professor Arminius.
Vizianagram, the Maharaja of.

POSTSCRIPT.

After paying the expenses of the publication the surplus will be placed wholly at the disposal of the family of the deceased man of letters.

Orders to be made to the Business Manager, "An Indian Journalist," at the Bee Press, 1, Uckoor Dutt's Lane, Wellington Street, Calcutta.

OPINION ON THE BOOK.

It is a most interesting record of the life of a remarkable man.—Mr. H. Babington Smith, Private Secretary to the Viceroy, 5th October, 1895.

Dr. Mookerjee was a famous letter-writer, and there is a breezy freshness and originality about his correspondence which make it very interesting reading.—Sir Alfred W. Croft, K.C.I.E., Director of Public Instruction, Bengal 26th September, 1895.

It is not that amid the pressure of harassing official duties an English Civilian can find either time or opportunity to pay so graceful a tribute to the memory of a native personality as F. H. Skrine has done in his biography of the late Dr. Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee, the well-known Bengal journalist (Calcutta: Thacker, Spink and Co.); nor are there many who are more worthy of being thus honoured than the late Editor of *Reis and Rayyet*.

We may at any rate cordially agree with Mr. Skrine that the story of Mookerjee's life, with all its lights and shadows, is pregnant with lessons for those who desire to know the real India.

No weekly paper, Mr. Skrine tells us, not even the *Hindoo Patriot*, in its palmiest days under Kristodas Pal, enjoyed a degree of influence in any way approaching that which was soon attained by *Reis and Rayyet*.

A man of huge heart and great qualities, his death from pneumonia in the early spring in the last year was a distinct and heavy loss to Indian journalism, and it was an admirable idea on Mr. Skrine's part to put his Life and Letters upon record.—The *Times of India*, (Bombay) September 30, 1895.

It is rarely that the life of an Indian journalist becomes worthy of publication; it is more rarely still that such a life comes to be written by an Anglo-Indian and a member of the Indian Civil Service. But, it has come to pass that in the land of the Bengali Babu, the life of at least one man among Indian journalists has been considered worthy of being written by an Englishman.—The *Madras Standard*, (Madras) September 30, 1895.

The late Editor of *Reis and Rayyet* was a profound student and an accomplished writer, who has left his mark on Indian journalism. In that he has found a Civilian like Mr. Skrine to record the story of his life he is more fortunate than the great Kristodas Pal himself.—The *Tribune*, (Lahore) October 2, 1895.

For much of the biographical matter that issues so freely from the press an apology is needed. Had no biography of Dr. Mookerjee, the Editor of *Reis and Rayyet*, appeared, no explanation would have been looked for. A man of his remarkable personality, who was easily first among native Indian journalists, and in many respects occupied a higher plane than they did, and looked at public affairs from a different point of view from theirs, could not be suffered to sink into oblivion without some

attempt to perpetuate his memory by the usual embalment of a "life." The difficulties common to all biographers have in this case been increased by special circumstances, not the least of which is that the author belongs to a different race from the subject. It is true that among Englishmen there were many admirers of the learned Doctor, and that he on his side understood the English character as few foreigners understand it. But in spite of this and his remarkable assimilation of English modes of thought and expression, Dr. Mookerjee remained to the last a Brahman of the Brahmans—a conservation of the best of his inheritance that wins nothing but respect and approval. In consequence of this, his ideal biographer would have been one of his own disciples, with the same inherited sympathies, and trained like him in Western learning. If Bengal had produced such another man as Dr. Mookerjee, it was he who should have written his life.

The biography is warmly appreciative without being needlessly laudatory; it gives on the whole a complete picture of the man; and in the book there is not a dull page.

A few of the letters addressed to Dr. Mookerjee are of such minor importance that they might have been omitted with advantage, but not a word of his own letters could have been spared. To say that he writes idiomatic English is to say but little short of the truth. His diction is crisp and correct, clear and straightforward, without Oriental luxuriance or striving after effect. Perhaps he is never so charming as when he is laying down the laws of literary form to young aspirants to fame. The letter on page 285, for instance, is a delightful piece of criticism: it is delicate plain-speaking, and he accomplishes the difficult feat of telling a would-be poet that his productions are not in the smallest degree poetry, without one may conclude, either offending the youth or repressing his ardour.

For much more that is well worth reading we must refer readers to the volume itself. Intrinsically it is a book worth buying and reading. —The *Pioneer*, (Allahabad) Oct. 5, 1895.

The career of "An Indian Journalist" as described by F. H. Skrine of the Indian Civil Service is exceedingly interesting.

Mookerjee's letters are marvels of pure diction which is heightened by his nervous style.

The life has been told by Mr. Skrine in a very pleasant manner and which should make it popular not only with Bengalis but with all those who are able to appreciate merit unmarred by ostentation and earnestness unspoiled by harshness.—The *Muhammadan*, (Madras) Oct. 8, 1895.

The work leaves nothing to be desired either in the way of completeness, impartiality, or lifelike portrayal of character.

Mr. Skrine deals with his interesting subject with the unfailing instinct of the biographer. Every side of Dr. Mookerjee's complex character is treated with sympathy tempered by discrimination.

Mr. Skrine's narrative certainly impresses one with the individuality of a remarkable man.

Mookerjee's own letters show that he had not only acquired a command of clear and flexible English but that he had also assimilated that sturdy independence of thought and character which is supposed to be a peculiar possession of natives of Great Britain. His teaching and the stories of his general influence appear to have been, considering his opportunities, little less than marvellous.

One of the best to express his condolence with the family of the deceased writer was the present Viceroy, Lord Elgin. Mookerjee appears to have won the affection not only of the degree men with whom he came in contact, but also of those in low estate.

The impression left upon the mind upon laying down the book is that of a good and able man whose career has been graphically portrayed.—The *Englishman*, (Calcutta) October 15, 1895.

The career of an eminent Bengali editor, who died in 1894, throws a curious light upon the race elements and hereditary influences which affect the criticisms of Indian journalists on British rule.

The Life and Letters of Dr. S. C. Mookerjee," a book just issued by a distinguished countryman in Calcutta, takes us behind the scenes of Indian journalism.

It is a narrative, written with insight and a complete mastery of the facts, of how a clever youth gradually grew into one of the ablest leader-writers in Bengal, and still more gradually matured into one of the fairest-minded editors that western education in India has yet produced. If the training and experience which develop the journalist in England are sometimes varied, they seem in India to have an even wider range.

But the object of this notice is to show how a great Bengali journalist is made; space forbids us to enter upon his actual performances. They will be found set forth at sufficient length, and with much felicity of expression, in Mr. Skrine's admirable monograph. It is characteristic of the noble service to which Mr. Skrine belongs, that such a book should have issued from its ranks. Dr. Mookerjee was no optimist. One of his brilliant speeches contained the following sentence:—"India has neither the soil nor the elasticity enjoyed by young and vigorous communities, but present the arid rocks and deserts of an effete civilization, hardly stirred to a semblance of life by a foreign occupation dozing over its easily-gained advantages." This was true of the pre-Mutiny India of 1851. If it is no longer true of the Queen's India of 1895, we owe it in no small measure to Indian journalists like Dr. Mookerjee who have laboured, amid some misrepresentation, to quicken the "semblance of life" into a living reality.—The *Times*, (London) October 15, 1895.

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